

Hafa Adai!

Tinian dumpsite study
needed before relocation. » **PAGE 3**

Six will vie for 2015 Miss Mari-
anas tiara on Thursday. » **PAGE 6**

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75¢

Assessment work starts on Rota

By **FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA** and **DENNIS B. CHAN**
frauleine_villanueva@saipantribune.com
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTERS

The municipality of Rota took the brunt of most of Typhoon Dolphin's destructive winds and heavy rains when the eye of the tropical cyclone crossed the Rota channel Friday night. Several houses on Rota were seen damaged and unroofed, and many power poles and trees were down after the storm grazed the island.

» No reported casualties in the CNMI

In his initial statement, Rota Mayor Efrain Atalig said despite the damage they have suffered, he is thankful that there were no casualties or injuries.

Latest reports from Atalig said that 90 percent of the power on island has been restored after experiencing a blackout since Saturday. Roads within the

two villages have been cleared including the main highway connecting the two and the hospital. The airport and seaport have also been cleared of debris.

See WORK
on **Page 4**

An electric pole in Alaihai Ave. in Garapan is temporarily supported by a CUC truck since Saturday after being downed by gusty winds. As of yesterday afternoon, it has already been repaired by the agency's crew.

FRAULEINE MICHELLE S. VILLANUEVA



‘Rota needs to be declared state of disaster’

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Sen. Teresita A. Santos (R-Rota) said yesterday that the destructions to properties and crops brought by Typhoon Dolphin were extensive and that people may require ample time to re-

» Senator says winds were monstrous, destruction was extensive to the island

cover or rebuild from the loss.
“The winds were monstrous.

This is the first time they have heard those kinds of sounds,” said Santos in an interview.

Considering the extent of damage, it clearly shows that Rota needs to be declared a state of disaster, she said.

“So perhaps there may be
See DISASTER on Page 4

BSI interviewing 400 applicants this week

By **JOEL PINAROC**
joel_pinaroc@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Best Sunshine International, Ltd. is looking to interview 400 applicants this week and has already hired about 100 employees.

Currently, 30 of the hired are local residents, BSI executives told the Commonwealth Casino Commission in a public meeting last week.

When asked by the regulators, BSI executives said they have yet to determine

how many of the expected 400 applicant interviews are CW visa holders or how many are locals.

BSI officials also disclosed that at the end of the interview process, some 600 positions

See BSI on Page 4

INSIDE

LOCAL

The Department of Public Works is “working hard” to improve the Rota dumpsite.

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LOCAL

Maria Theresa Dizon represents the CNMI at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair.

» **PAGE 13**

LIFE & STYLE

Mother Dolores Hart turns one kiss with Elvis Presley into the spark that helped save an abbey.

» **PAGE 20**



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Local

House passes defense bill with NMI provisions

The U.S. House of Representatives has passed the National Defense Authorization Act for 2016 with several provisions important to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

In his weekly e-newsletter, Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) said among the provisions are more slots at military academies, annual report on Japan military spending in the Marianas, and respect for the views of local government.

The bill, H.R. 1735, adds one more slot for students from the Northern Mariana Islands at the

U.S. Naval Academy, the Air Force Academy, and the Military Academy at West Point.

"I doubled the number from three to six in U.S. Public Law 111-84, but today only one of those six positions is unfilled. So it is time again to increase the opportunities for our young people who want to serve their country," Sablan said.

The Secretary of Defense would be required to submit a report every year from 2017 through 2026, detailing the amount of funds contributed by the Japanese government for the realignment of Marine Corps Forces in the

Asia-Pacific region.

The report would cover total amounts contributed, anticipated contributions, and completed and planned projects in the Mariana Islands paid for with Japanese money.

The e-newsletter further said a provision in last year's House-passed defense bill required that governors are fully consulted and all options considered, when the military acquires land in excess of \$750,000 in U.S. states and commonwealths.

The Senate rejected the idea, but this year the House Armed Services Committee added the language again. Existing law,

10 U.S.C. §2664(a), requiring congressional approval is unchanged: "No military department may acquire real property not owned by the United States unless the acquisition is expressly authorized by law."

The 2016 NDAA also authorizes a 2.3-percent pay increase for military personnel, provides funding for suicide prevention programs, and strengthens provisions related to sexual assault in the military, the newsletter said.

The bill still has to be reconciled with the Senate version before it goes to President Barack Obama. *(Joel D. Pinaroc)*

Casino commission seeks to clarify finances

The Commonwealth Casino Commission will be seeking a review of its finances as it continues to hire more personnel in preparation for the opening of a casino in Garapan.

The regulatory body is being funded by the nonrefundable, exclusive casino license application fee set by the government.

Two groups—Best Sunshine International, Ltd. and Marianas Stars Entertainment Inc.—paid \$1 million each for the exclusive license, which ultimately went to Best Sunshine.

Commission executive director Edwar C. Deleon Guerrero, in a public meeting, said the casino regulators are moving to an office in Garapan by May, and that it will also hire key personnel.

He said the commission's budget is not included in the CNMI government's proposed budget for fiscal year 2016. Deleon Guerrero said the body has started paying its bills for the office space.

There are also some procurement issues still pending, the official said. Deleon Guerrero said the commission's staff should be on board by July.

Since the initial budget from the license fees is not replenishing itself, the commission is also requesting funding from the government for fiscal year 2016.

Deleon Guerrero said the budget being asked is \$2.6 million.

Commissioner Joseph Reyes said there is a need for the casino commission to "clear up" its current finances with the Department of Finance.

He told his fellow commissioners that the body needs to check if there are "obligations" and that the regulators need to

"move forward."

"We do not want to be hit with an obligation or a bill," Reyes said.

Commissioner Alvaro Santos said he will set up a meeting with Finance Secretary Larrisa Larson to discuss the matter.

The commission did not disclose how much of its initial \$2 million budget is still available.

'Ready'

Casino Commission chair Juan Sablan earlier said the regulators will be ready once the temporary casino in Garapan opens.

Sablan and the rest of the commission recently traveled to Las Vegas to undergo a weeklong training. The commissioners flew to Las Vegas in March for a three-day training, and again last month for a second round of training.

Sablan said the commissioners "learned a lot" from the casino training, and by the time the temporary casino opens in June or July, the regulators will be ready, he said.

He added that there are still preparations being made, including the hiring of staff that will man the commission's office on Garapan. The office will be operate 24x7 once the casino is in full-swing.

Sablan said the April training was "intensive," combining both on-campus and gaming floor training.

The five-man commission underwent training at the University of Nevada in Las Vegas. According to its website, the University of Nevada in Las Vegas offers casino auditing and casino management to improve "casino controls, policies, and procedures." *(Joel D. Pinaroc)*

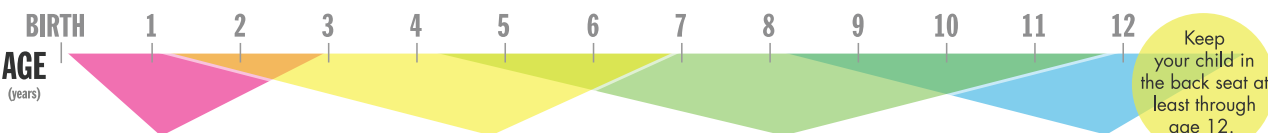
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May 18 - 31, 2015



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- Always refer to your specific car seat manufacturer's instructions; read the vehicle owner's manual on how to install the car seat using the seat belt or LATCH system; and check height and weight limits.
- To maximize safety, keep your child in the car seat for as long as possible, as long as the child fits within the manufacturer's height and weight requirements.
- Keep your child in the back seat at least through age 12.



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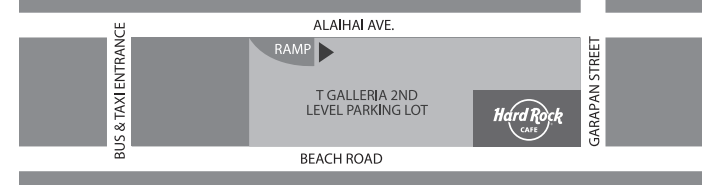
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Tinian dumpsite study needed before relocation

By **JAYSON CAMACHO**
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A land survey, along with an environmental impact study and design and construction proposals, needs to be done for the proposed relocation site of Tinian's dumpsite before the island's leadership can push through with the project.

The proposed dumpsite is located in Pina, which is in the eastern part of Tinian.

The current Tinian landfill, located southwest of Tinian and near the airport, is an open dump and is the subject of health and environmental concerns by local and federal agencies.

Casino resort investor Alter City Group earlier made known its concerns about the dumpsite, which is located right smack in the middle of its leased land in Puntan Diablo.

The first phase of its casino resort project is slated in the next three to four years and the company does not want to build near a dumpsite.

Eric San Nicolas, military policy adviser for the Tinian Mayor's Office, said the existing dumpsite is within Alter City's public land lease of 152 hectares.

"The dump cannot be closed until a compliant landfill is completed or other options such

as exporting municipal solid waste to the Saipan landfill become operational," he said.

San Nicolas said the CNMI Joint Military Training draft EIS/OEIS identified two locations as potential landfill sites—one in Pina and the other at Kastiyu.

"The Tinian leadership is recommending the Pina site over the Kastiyu because of the planned 'Tinian Plateau Integrated Resort Development' project at Kastiyu," he said.

However, the Department of Public Lands has to first designate and survey 18 hectares within the potential site at Pina. Once the site has been designated, the next phases

will be the EIS study, design, and construction.

San Nicolas said that Alter City has pledged funding for the relocation of the dump, but they are not sure if they would be willing to pay for all associated costs for a new landfill.

For the proposed transfer of municipal solid waste, the military is proposing to ship all of it to either the Marpi landfill or to

the Navy solid waste facility in Guam. They are also looking at other options such as incineration and recycling.

San Nicolas noted that the transfer station design is 100 percent complete and ready for construction upon approval by the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality. All solid waste that cannot be recycled or are non-biodegradable has to be

disposed in an approved landfill or shipped to the Saipan landfill.

"We propose to address all these issues with the landfill by either building a new landfill or, if feasible, ship it to the Saipan landfill," San Nicolas said.

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Photo shows typhoon damage on Rota, courtesy of the Office of the Governor.

WORK

From Page 1

Atalig assured everyone that other assistance is on the way.

Lt. Gov. Ralph DLG Torres flew down to Rota yesterday afternoon to personally assess the damage the island suffered. He met with Atalig and Rota's Emergency Operations Center along with Public Safety Commissioner James C. Deleon Guerrero, Commissioner of Fire and Emergency Medical Services Claudio K. Norita, and Special Assistant for Homeland Security and Emergency Management Marvin K. Seman.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP), who has been on island since last week, also made the rounds of Rota with Torres.

"My heart goes out to the people of Rota after enduring a storm that left all residents of the CNMI and Guam affected," said Torres.

"The administration's main priority at this time is to ensure that the safety and welfare of the municipality's residents and its rescue personnel are at the forefront of our operations," he added.

Atalig reported that teams from the American Red Cross and FEMA Preliminary Disaster Assessment are already on island.

According to public information specialist LJ Castro, the Federal Emergency Management Agency contingent includes senior federal official Deanne Criswell. Aside from Rota, the team also discussed the damage on Saipan.

It was not immediately learned if there are plans to declare a state of disaster emergency for Rota.

No casualties or injuries have also been reported on Saipan and Tinian after the typhoon.

"Governor Inos and I extend our appreciation to everyone for taking precautionary measures

and tuning in to updates prior to Typhoon Dolphin," Torres said.

Classes resume on Tinian, Saipan

Education Commissioner Dr. Rita Sablan informed parents and legal guardians of students in the Public School System that schools on Tinian and Saipan would resume today.

Schools on Rota, however, like Head Start, Sinapalo Elementary and Dr. Rota Hocog Inos Jr. Sr. High School will be closed today.

Sablan said Rota classes will resume tomorrow and that all non-certified staff on Rota are required to report to work today.

Meanwhile, the Northern Marianas College will be re-opening their campuses on Saipan, Rota, and Tinian today.

"Students and employees are advised to continue to take precautionary measures when driving on highways as there may be storm debris and/or flooding in low-lying areas," the college said.

CUC restoration work

According to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., many customers in the areas hardest hit by Typhoon Dolphin remained without essential services as of yesterday afternoon.

After working back-to-back 18-hour shifts, CUC Power and Water crews on Saipan continued their efforts to return services to customers. Power and restoration efforts on Rota and Tinian also continued.

According to CUC, all feeders were providing power to customers across Saipan, allowing crews to focus on the remaining isolated outages.

CUC said all water supplies across Saipan have been restored.

However, more time is required for the newly energized pumps to supply water to the reservoirs to provide the pressure customers are accustomed

to receiving.

On Tinian, all feeders are back online. Crews were working to restore power to individual customers.

CUC sent a team from Saipan to Rota to assist with power and water restoration efforts.

Feeder 1 on Rota remained down as of yesterday; however, some customers normally served by Feeder 1 are now receiving power from Feeder 3, which is also partially energized.

A portion of customers in Sinapalo I are receiving power from Feeder 2, but customers living in Sinapalo II and III, as well as the Chenchon area, remain without power. Line crews have prioritized repair work in District 3 at Songsong village, Sinapalo II and III, and Chenchon area, according to CUC.

CUC notes that the water system on Rota has fared better than its power component, as the vast majority of CUC customers are online.

Residents can visit at www.cucgov.org or contact the CUC Call Center at 664-4CUC (664-4282) for more information.

Still in shelters

At 8am Saturday, an all-clear condition was declared by Gov. Eloy S. Inos as Typhoon Dolphin moved away from the islands.

A total of 263 individuals stayed in the 10 shelters that were opened since Friday night.

As of yesterday, shelters were already closed on Saipan as residents left early. However, the Aging Center on Rota, where all of the residents who sought shelter went to register, is still open and will continue to be open.

According to Julita Calvo, who is in charge of the Rota shelter, up to 19 individuals spent Saturday night in the center. At least one stayed last night.

"Some of them are in need

of a place to stay but they go to their relatives in the morning," Calvo said.

"We're still open as long as anyone needs a place to stay. We're open 24/7," she added.

On Tinian, the typhoon shelter located at the Tinian Elementary School accommodated a total of 24 individuals. The American Red Cross also provided food to these individuals.

The Tinian municipal government assisted with road clearing (Department of Public Works was dispatched 24 times to clear roads and remove debris to maintain safety), damage assessments, and dissemination of information.

Super typhoon

After inflicting damage in the CNMI and Guam, Dolphin further intensified and became a super typhoon.

According to the National Weather Station in Guam, the eye of Dolphin was located 495 miles northwest of Saipan. It has sustained winds of 160 miles per hour and was moving northwest at 12 miles per hour.

It was traveling west-northwest but is expected to curve and start heading northeast.

Impact on Guam

In Guam, one person was injured in the storm and taken to the hospital.

"There were no casualties. That means people really paid attention," said Veronica Verde, spokeswoman for Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region 9.

Verde said FEMA will do a joint assessment with the government of Guam on damage from the typhoon. The assessment will be compiled to determine if any federal funding will be needed.

Gov. Eddie Calvo's spokeswoman, Oyaol Ngairairikl, said the government was still in its initial stages of assessing damage. *(With AP)*

DISASTER

From Page 1

some assistance in some form that may be available to those who are greatly impacted by the typhoon," she said.

Santos said that based on her telephone interviews with Rota residents, majority were affected as a result of the extensive damage.

She said many power poles fell and majority of houses that had tin roofs were totally destroyed and torn apart.

The senator said many were forced to seek shelter elsewhere because they were so scared.

Citing an Emergency Management Office representative's report, she said about 19 people took refuge at the Aging Center, the designated shelter.

Santos said that people started feeling the typhoon's brunt on Friday at 6:30pm and all the way to the next morning.

She said even after Typhoon Dolphin left Rota, strong winds and rains could still be felt.

Santos said it was the first time in recent memory for a typhoon to pound the island at such full strength yet took its time exiting.

"Imagine, from 6:30pm all the way to the following morning. Maybe that's about seven to eight hours, it kept grilling the island," the senator said.

Santos said she is just thankful that there were no casualties and injury-related incidents.

She is also praised the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. for immediately trying to restore the power and water supply. She also commended the Mayor's Office, the Department of Public Works and other agencies for removing the debris from roads.

Santos said as of yesterday afternoon, she received reports that about 80 percent of their power has been restored, while other places about 60 percent.

Shelter

On Saipan, as of 3:15pm on Friday, 31 people or five families sought shelter at the Dandan Middle School.

BSI

From Page 1

are expected to be filled.

BSI earlier said it is eyeing to hire 500 trainees for the temporary live training facility and it is prioritizing locals for the job openings.

The officials, led by Matthew Harkness, BSI chief operating officer, told regulators that the training for the casino employees will be held at the fourth floor of Bank of Guam, which is adjacent to the T Galleria where the temporary live training facility will be established.

Harkness also told regulators that BSI is hiring people as trainees "way prior to the opening of the facility."

He added that trainees will be "eased" to the gaming floor and will initially handle low stakes games.

People started coming to Dandan Middle School at 6am Friday when the school opened its shelter.

Dandan Middle School vice principal and shelter manager Reo Arriola said their capacity is 30 people but because there were a lot of children, they decided to accommodate more.

Dandan Middle School served as the primary shelter and San Vicente Elementary School was the secondary shelter.

Arriola said they didn't have any issues because they prepared ahead of time.

Jose Alex Joseph, 55, went to the Dandan Middle School shelter at 7:15am with his wife, daughter, and their eight grandchildren.

Joseph said their house in Dandan Homestead is concrete, but the roof is made of tin so it's not safe.

"Mother Nature is more stronger," said Joseph, who also took shelter with his family at Dandan Middle School when Tropical Storm Bavi battered the CNMI last March.

At 3:45pm on Friday, there were 10 people (three families) who took refuge at San Vicente Elementary School.

San Vicente Elementary School vice principal Anna Guerrero said people started to register at 11am and started coming at 12:45pm.

"We're good," Guerrero said. An elderly woman, who was among 10 people at San Vicente, said they called Dandan Middle School to register but were informed to proceed to San Vicente School.

The woman, who asked not to be identified, said they went to Dandan Middle School during the last typhoon in March. She, her sister, and two other family members came to San Vicente because they were worried that their tin houses in Dandan may be blown away.

At the same time on Friday, at Koblerville Elementary School shelter, 85 registered and 65 people came.

It was reported that over 270 people sought shelters on Saipan.

The BSI training school will open in "a few weeks," the executive said, although the company still needs equipment.

Any training will also be open to the regulators, he said.

It was earlier learned that many of the local residents applying for jobs at BSI prefer to land hotel jobs instead of casino-related positions.

"We are not having any problems with the hiring, and I wish we had more. A lot of people are coming into the office asking about hotel jobs," Mark A. Brown, chief executive officer of BSI, earlier said.

He said a majority of the applicants are seeking hotel-related jobs.

"Right this moment, majority [of the applicants] are not dealers. I want more dealers," Brown said, adding that Best Sunshine pays trainees to deal at \$7.25 per hour.

Ex-convict found using opiates, gambling at poker arcade

The federal court has once again revoked the supervised release of an ex-convict whose probation had been revoked several times due to continued use of illegal drugs. This time, he admitted to another violation after being found gambling at a poker arcade and testing positive for opiates.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Senior Judge Alex R. Munson sentenced Steven Faisao Abal to 11 months imprisonment last week.

Munson, however, deferred the sentence for two months.

Abal was ordered to report to the U.S. Probation Office twice a week for drug testing

during the two months of deferment.

If Abal tests positive during the two-month period, the sentence shall be imposed, the judge said.

Attorney Robert T. Torres is court-appointed counsel for Abal. Assistant U.S. attorney Russell Lorfing appeared for the U.S. government.

In a request for revocation, U.S. Probation Officer Gregory F. Arriola said that Abal tested positive for the use of opiates on Feb. 15, 2015, and that he also admitted entering a poker arcade to gamble.

Arriola said that when confronted with the positive drug test result, Abal denied using

illegal drugs and stated that he only had taken Tylenol due to flu-like symptoms.

Arriola said that last Feb. 25, he received information that Abal was playing video poker in Garapan.

When confronted the following day, Abal admitted playing poker, Arriola said.

The probation officer reminded him that he was prohibited from accessing poker machines or any form of gambling device.

Abal was sentenced in October 2005 to 20 months in prison and five years of supervised release for conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine or "ice." (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

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Kia Soul LX retail price \$18,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 7% APR for 60 monthly payments of \$300.90 or \$138.88 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment \$18,054.00.
Kia Sportage LX retail price \$22,495.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 7% APR for 60 monthly payments of \$356.34 or \$164.46 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment \$21,380.40.
Kia Sedona LX retail price \$30,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 7% APR for 60 monthly payments of \$490.99 or \$226.61 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment \$29,459.40.

6 will vie for 2015 Miss Marianas tiara on Thursday

By FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
frauline_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Coming out of a six-year hiatus, Miss Marianas will be staged once again this Thursday and another queen shall be crowned in the CNMI.

Six candidates will vie for the Miss Marianas 2015 title at the Sandcastle Saipan in Hyatt Regency.

"Last year was the Miss Marianas Teen. This year we're crowning the queen to send to global competitions," organizer Stellar Marianas president Laila Boyer said.

This year's contestants—Jian Joyner, Dana Manglona, Riana McCale, Daysia San Nicolas, Joanna Navarro, and Irene Torres—were presented to the media on Thursday.

"I'm very excited. I've been preparing for two months. We've had practices and at home my family helps me with the question and answer parts and I practice my walk wherever I go. I hope I win," said 20-year-old Joyner, who is an associate degree holder in Liberal Arts.

Manglona, also 20 years old, said it was her childhood dream to become an international model and beauty queen. She also wants to become a Web and graphic designer specialist.

McCale, 20, wanted to overcome her shyness, which is why



FRAULEINE MICHELLE S. VILLANUEVA

From left, Jian Joyner, Dana Manglona, Riana McCale, Daysia San Nicolas, Joanna Navarro, and Irene Torres will be vying to be crowned Miss Marianas 2015. The island's pageant, organized by Stellar Marianas, is coming back to the stage after six years of hiatus.

she joined the pageant.

"I'm a really shy person so I thought joining the pageant would be a great way for me to grow as a person and also build up my self-confidence," she said.

When asked about who her

role model in life is, San Nicolas said it was her grandmother.

"My grandma is my role model because she was the strongest woman I knew. She was the heart of the family even if she suffered from hav-

ing cancer for 10 years," San Nicolas, 19, said.

Among the winner's prizes is a chance to create and implement a community project under her name assisted by the islands' nonprofit pageant and

talent group, Stellar Marianas.

Navarro, 19, and Torres, 20, each have a different program in mind.

For Navarro she wants to develop programs that are related to the tourism industry and

sports while Torres wants to create programs and projects that center around children, teens, and young adults.

On Thursday, the islands will see not only a new crowned queen but also a great show.

"The theme is vintage Hollywood so they're going to be in a for a great show. There's going to be a magic show from Sandcastle, live performances from Nikita Mendiola and also from Glushko Academy and Saipan Music and Dance Studio," Boyer said.

Boyer is encouraging everyone to get their tickets at Iridescent Boutique as seats are limited.

"We are encouraging the community to please come out and support this worthwhile community endeavor and to support our young women who are about to showcase the confidence and beauty of our islands," she added.

Miss Marianas 2015 will receive a crown, trophy, sash, and flowers, \$1,500 cash, all-expense paid travel opportunity to compete in two international pageants, all-expense paid travel opportunities, a brand new smartphone, one-year supply of beauty products, one-year gym membership and personal trainer, one-year use of a personal stylist and manicurist, a professional model portfolio, and a four-piece luggage set from Stellar Marianas.



Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
1 Lower Navy Hill Road Navy Hill, Saipan, MP 96950



ANNOUNCEMENT

The CNMI WIC (Women, Infants and Children) Program is now accepting Vendor Applications for the islands of Saipan, Tinian and Rota.

All interested vendors may pick up an application at the main office located on Upper Navy Hill Building # N-25, beginning May 04, 2015 through July 17, 2015; Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, or request for an application via email at fabianu@cnmiwic.org or download an application on CHCC's website at <http://chcc.gov.mp>.

Applications must be submitted to the CNMI WIC Program's Administrative Office no later than 4:00 p.m., July 17, 2015.

Prospective applicants are encouraged to carefully read through the information provided to ensure minimum qualifications are met.

Inquiries and technical questions may be directed to the Vendor Management Coordinator, Fabian M. Ulloa at (670) 664-4066, by email at fabianu@cnmiwic.org or by facsimile at (670) 664-4069.

USDA is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.

/s/ Esther L. Muña
Chief Executive Officer
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

/s/ Carmen C. Cabrera
Administrator
CNMI WIC Program



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-15-015

SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF TYPHOON RECOVERY MATERIALS

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Supply and Delivery of Typhoon Recovery Materials for CUC Power Division, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

CUC may award a contract to more than one firm for the materials, based on bids for "Commodity Groups".

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies of the bid must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-15-015, Supply & Delivery of Typhoon Recovery Materials" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on May 27, 2015** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bid. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract. Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. All responses to this Invitation for Bids should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the bidder, awarded a contract.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. The award of a contract may be contingent upon the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission's (CPUC) approval. If CPUC approval is required, the contract will not be executed by CUC until such approval is provided.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on May 11, 2015** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Alfredo Palattao, CUC Power Division Engineer via email alfred.palattao@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in said bid proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

ALAN W. FLETCHER
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

DPS chief vows more operations vs drug traffickers

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

With the arrest of seven suspected distributors of methamphetamine or “ice” last week, Department of Public Safety Commissioner James C. Deleon Guerrero has promised more operations in his war against “ice” in the Commonwealth.

Deleon Guerrero reminded

those who are using “ice” to stop and seek immediate help.

“DPS has a zero tolerance policy against meth offenders and those caught will be charged and be brought before the courts,” the commissioner said.

As this developed, three of the arrested seven suspected “ice” suppliers—Shaboo Cabrera Sablan, 25; John Richard Palacios Deleon Guerrero, 39;

and Rui Jun Huang, 34—were taken to Superior Court for bail hearings on Friday morning.

Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho, however, released Sablan and Huang on a \$100,000 and \$10,000 unsecured bond, respectively, after the Department of Public Safety failed to bring them to court within 24 hours after their arrest.

Camacho reminded the government to follow the 24-hour rule.

“There is no 48-hour rule,” the judge pointed out.

Camacho told Sablan and Huang that although they are temporarily released, their cases are not over yet and that they need to appear for their arraignment on June 1 at 9am.

Camacho maintained the

\$100,000 cash bail imposed on Deleon Guerrero.

Deleon Guerrero’s preliminary hearing will be tomorrow, Tuesday, at 1:30pm.

The four other suspects, all Chinese nationals, were taken to court for bail hearings on Thursday. They are Zhi Peng Huang, 36; Ming Ming Zhang, 26; Xiu Hui Wang, 36; and Da Mei Zhang, 29, also known as Mei Mei. A \$100,000 cash bail was imposed on each of them.

Office of the Attorney General investigator George F. David stated in his report that a “cooperating source” managed to purchase \$100 worth of 0.3 gross grams of “ice” from Sablan at his residence along Bakke Street in Susupe last March 12 and \$100 worth of 0.4 gross

grams outside his residence last March 13.

Police officer Raymond Camacho stated in his report that a “cooperating source” was able to buy \$220 worth of “ice” from Deleon Guerrero in the parking lot of U-Luck Poker in Gualo Rai last April 16 and \$220 worth of “ice” from another person at the same location last April 17.

Saipan Tribune opted not to disclose the suspected “ice” supplier at the April 17 transaction as it’s not clear whether police have already arrested him.

DPS Commissioner Deleon Guerrero said they are seeking the community’s assistance in locating another suspected “ice” supplier, Joshua Sablan Diaz.

Deleon Guerrero congratulat-

ed all the detectives, agents, and investigators who worked in the cases against eight persons.

“It is a clear testament of the Commonwealth and federal law enforcement community’s resolve to end the proliferation of crystal methamphetamine in our small island jurisdiction,” he said.

Over the past two years, CNMI and federal law enforcement efforts had reportedly caused the removal of over \$740,000 worth of “ice” from the streets.

Deleon Guerrero said the entire CNMI law enforcement community is united on the “war on ice.”

At the recent operations, authorities searched four residences and seized two vehicles in the process. The cases were investigated by personnel assigned to the joint DPS-Division of Customs Interagency Financial Crimes and Drug Enforcement Task Force.

Daniel, Olivia most popular baby names in NMI, Guam, A. Samoa

The Social Security Administration announced Friday the most popular baby names in American Samoa, Guam, and Saipan for 2014. Olivia and Daniel topped the list.

The top five boys and girls names for 2014 in American Samoa, Guam, and Saipan were:

Boys	Girls
1) Daniel	1) Olivia
2) Noah	2) Abigail
3) David	3) Chloe
4) Liam	4) Claire
5) Aiden	5) Mia

Carolyn W. Colvin, acting commissioner of Social Security, announced last week that Noah and Emma were the most popular baby names in the U.S. How does American Samoa, Guam, and Saipan compare to the rest of the country? Check out Social Security’s website (www.socialsecurity.gov) to see the top baby names for 2014.

Social Security has a new addition this year too, Social Security Matters, the agency’s new-born interactive blog located at <http://blog.socialsecurity.gov>.

Social Security Matters, the agency’s new bundle of joy, launches as we celebrate 80 years of serving the American public, and is an addition to our communications family where people can find information on retirement, disability, Supplemental Security Income, online services, and much more. It also is a place where the public can engage in conversations with the agency about what matters most. The blog encourages discussion and offers important solutions. Much like being a new parent, making benefit decisions can be overwhelming. The blog is the latest in a long line of tools Social Security offers to help educate the public about their benefits and how to access agency services.

The birth of a child is a special time for families. While having fun with the baby names list, Colvin encourages everyone to visit the agency’s website and create a *my Social Security* account at www.socialsecurity.gov. *my Social Security* is a personalized online account that people can use beginning in their working years and continuing throughout the time they receive Social Security benefits.

Social Security and Supplemental Security Income beneficiaries can have instant access to their benefit verification letter, payment history, and complete earnings record by establishing a *my Social Security* account. Beneficiaries also can change their address, start or change direct deposit information, and print a replacement SSA-1099 online.

Individuals age 18 and older who are not receiving benefits can also sign up for a *my Social Security* account to get their personalized online *Social Security Statement*. The online *Statement* provides workers with secure and convenient access to their Social Security earnings and benefit information, and estimates of future benefits they can use to plan for their retirement. (**SSA**)

Wanted: Joshua Sablan Diaz

On Monday, May 11, 2015, Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho issued an arrest warrant for Joshua Sablan Diaz, 30, for the charges of trafficking of a controlled substance and possession of a controlled substance, in violation of the Commonwealth Code. Cash bail is set at \$100,000.

Several attempts have been made to arrest and apprehend Diaz. His family members, friends, and known associates



Diaz

have been made aware of Diaz’s arrest warrant. He is still at large.

Sablan is described as weighing 220 lbs, 5’9” tall, with brown eyes, and black hair.

DPS and Crime Stoppers need your help. Please contact the Crime Stoppers hotline at 234-7272 should you want to remain anonymous or use our website at www.nmicrimestoppers.net. Crime Stoppers pays up to \$1,000 for any information leading to an arrest. It pays to call. (**DPS**)



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS Statewide Independent Living Council “Yes I Can!”

P.O. Box 501521, SAIPAN, MP 96950 • Tel: (670) 322-6537/8 • Fax: (670) 322-6536
TTY: (670) 322-6449 • E-Mail: nmidir@ovrgov.net



PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC §9910, the public is advised that the Statewide Independent Living Council will hold its FY 2015 Second General Membership Meeting on Thursday, May 21, 2015 at the Hyatt Regency Resort-Giovanni’s from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Interested individuals are welcome to attend.

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Review and Adoption of Agenda
- IV. Review and Adoption of FY 2015 First General Membership Meeting Minutes of 2/19/15
- V. Reports
 - a. SILC Chairperson
 - b. CLI Executive Director
 - c. Ad-Hoc Committee Chair-SILC Membership
 - d. OVR Director
- VI. Old Business
 - a. Designated State Entity
 - b. Request for Proposal: Independent Living Services
 - c. Resource Directory
 - d. Pac-Rim Conference
 - e. Guam System for Assistive Technology Conference Report
 - f. Autism Awareness Month Activities
 - g. Update on Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act Training
- VII. New Business
 - a. Administration for Community Living-Independent Living Liaison
 - b. CLI May Activities
 - c. Older Individuals Who are Blind Lobbying Certification Form Requirement
 - d. National Council on Independent Living Annual Conference
 - e. OVR Lawn Care/Maintenance
- VIII. Consumer Forum
- IX. Announcements/Miscellaneous
- X. Adjournment

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals who wish to attend the meeting but require accommodations such as large print or sign language interpreters are asked to call Ms. Elvira Seman (OVR Administrative Assistant) at 322-6537 (voice) or 322-6449 (TTY) 3 days before the meeting for necessary arrangements.

/s/ Gernadine DLC. Camacho
SILC Chairperson

Publication of this notice is paid for by Federal funds made possible by a grant from the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS).



NOTICE OF MEETING NORTHERN MARIANAS COLLEGE BOARD OF REGENTS’ REGULAR MEETING

Date: Friday, May 22, 2015
Time: 9:00a.m
Place: BOR Conference Room
Saipan Campus

AGENDA

- I. Call Meeting to Order (9:00a.m – 9:40a.m)
 - a. Roll Call
 - b. Review and Adoption of Agenda
 - c. Review and Adoption of Minutes
 1. February 26, 2015 – Regular Meeting
 2. April 24, 2015 – Special Meeting
 3. May 07, 2015 – Special Meeting
- II. Public Comment Period: Individuals may orally testify on items on the agenda during the Public Comment Period. Written testimony is also accepted. Testifiers are requested to limit their testimony to five (5) minutes. (9:40a.m – 9:50a.m)
- III. Chairperson’s Report
- IV. Reports and Action from Standing Committees (9:50a.m – 10:50a.m)
 - a. Fiscal Committee Report
 - b. Program Committee Report
 - c. Personnel Committee Report
- V. Old Business (10:50a.m – 11:15a.m)
 - a. Board Policies for Consideration (Second Reading)
 1. Board Policy No. 2007 – Naming Building Policy
- VI. New Business (11:15a.m – 12:40p.m)
 - a. Tuition and Fees
 - b. Board Policies for consideration (First Reading)
 1. Nominating Committee
 2. Audit and Operations Review
- VII. NMC Executive Reports (12:40p.m – 2:00p.m)
 - a. President’s Report
 1. WASC Accreditation Update
 2. Chief Financial Officer Report
- VIII. Legislative Updates
- IX. Board Meeting Assessment (2:00p.m – 2:10p.m)
- X. Executive Session (At any time during the scheduled meeting of the Board of Regents may be required to enter into executive session to discuss matters deemed privileged and confidential)
 - a. Legal Matters
 - b. Personnel Matters
 - c. Real Estate/On-Going Negotiations
- XI. Upcoming Board Activities (2:10p.m – 3:30p.m)
 - a. Upcoming Events / Activities

Saturday, May 23, 2015:
35th Commencement Ceremony
Marianas High School Gym
4:00p.m
 - b. Suggested 2015 Regular Meeting BOR Dates:

Suggested: May 22 (Friday)
July 23 (Thurs)
Sept 17 (Thurs)
Nov. 24 (Tues)

Suggested 2016 Regular Meeting BOR Dates:
Suggested: Jan 07 (Thurs)
March 10 (Thurs)
May 20 (Friday)
- XII. Adjournment (4:30p.m)

/s/Juan T. Lizama
BOR Chairperson

Date: Thursday, May 14, 2015

Igisomar bill wants new mileage program for medical referrals

Sen. Sixto Igisomar (R-Saipan) has introduced a bill to establish a CNMI medical referral mileage program to defray the airfare costs for patients.

As the CNMI healthcare facilities continue to provide inadequate medical care to address the increasing medical needs of the community, the rising costs in airfare continue to be a financial burden for the CNMI Medical Referral Program when making travel arrangements for patients, escorts, or health care staff.

According to Igisomar, from 2012 to 2014, the CNMI Medical Referral Program spent an

average of \$3.2 million in excess of funds appropriated per fiscal year for airfare, subsistence allowance, hotel accommodations, and medical claims.

There have been previous attempts to defray airfare costs through Public Law 9-54 that required all accrued miles earned at the expense of the government to be allocated to the CNMI Medical Referral Program.

However, Public Law 10-79 repealed Public Law 9-54 due to several problems that were not clearly addressed in Public Law 9-54, such as definitions of terms and how to properly

transfer accrued miles earned through government funds to individuals in need under the CNMI Medical Referral Program, Igisomar's bill said.

In addition, Public Law 10-79 stated that, at the time of its enactment, airlines were unable to establish a master account to be used to collect all accrued miles under the expense of the government.

The airlines can now make the arrangements. However, this would result in the government forfeiting major discounts of up to 50 percent off select economy fares that are currently in

place and have resulted in huge savings for the government.

The bill added that many government employees who travel at the expense of the government personally benefit with the accrued miles to their personal travel accounts, at a time when the CNMI Medical Referral Program has denied patients seeking off-island medical care due to limited financial resources.

Igisomar's bill seeks to design "a system that would transfer all accrued miles earned at the expense of the government to patients, escorts, or health care staff." (Joel D. Pinaroc)

Bid to drop lawsuit vs Quichocho and others in Tinian land dispute is denied

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman has denied a motion to dismiss a lawsuit filed in 2005 by four children of a landowner against disbarred lawyer Ramon K. Quichocho and other persons over the transfer of their father's two lots on Tinian.

Wiseman ruled that the court is not persuaded by the arguments of defendants Quichocho, Jesse S. Palacios, and Diego Lebante.

In their motion to dismiss the lawsuit, Quichocho, Palacios, and Lebante argued that Roma P. King, Mary Christine P. King, Angelica Isabel P. King, and Stephanie P. King (children) lack standing to sue under a quiet title theory on one of the two lots.

The four Kings are children of Jose Borja King.

Quichocho and Lebante also argued that the four Kings only bring a claim for a quiet title action and that they—Quichocho and Lebante—should be dismissed from the lawsuit because they do not have any interest or claim on either two lots.

In their opposition, the Kings, through counsel Mark B. Hanson, asserted that they have valid claims against Quichocho and Lebante under a slander of title theory or interference with the quiet enjoyment of real property.

Wiseman said that even if the allegations of Quichocho, Palacios, and Lebante were false, at this stage in the litigation, the court's primary concern is evaluating the sufficiency of the pleading—not the merits of it.

On the second argument, Wiseman said it is the defendant's burden to show that a plaintiff failed to plead sufficient facts that would provide him or her relief—simply stating so is not enough under the Rules of Civil Procedure.

"Here, defendants did not meet that burden," Wiseman said.

In light of the case's unique situation, the judge made some modifications by allowing defendants more time to file an answer to no later than 30 days from the issuance of the order.

Wiseman said if no answer is filed, the court will entertain the appropriate motions for entry of default pursuant to the Rules of Civil Procedure.

Quichocho and Antonio M. Atalig, both lawyers for the defendants, have been disbarred from the practice of law before the local courts.

In separate orders, Wiseman said the defendants' request for the court to reconsider Quichocho's disqualification from the case is moot due to his disbarment.

Wiseman also granted the Kings' motion to disqualify Atalig as the other counsel for

defendants. He ruled that any opposition to the motion to disqualify is moot because of the disbarment order.

According to court records, the four Kings alleged that they are owners of certain parcels of land pursuant to deeds of gift from their father, Jose Borja King. The two lots are both located in Tinian.

Plaintiffs alleged that Jose King owned title to the two properties in fee simple, but executed a number of deeds of gift with plaintiffs as beneficiaries.

Regarding one lot, Jose King twice executed deeds of gift conveying the properties to his children.

In 1996, plaintiffs alleged that Jose King executed a deed of gift conveying the lot to Angelica Isabel P. King.

Seven years later, in 2003, plaintiffs alleged that Jose King executed another deed of gift conveying the said lot to plaintiffs Roma P. King, Mary Christine P. King, Angelica, and Stephanie P. King.

Plaintiffs claimed that both deeds of gift were recorded in the Commonwealth Recorder's Office.

Regarding the second lot, plaintiffs alleged that Jose King executed a deed of gift also conveying the lot to Roma, Mary, Angelica, and Stephanie.

Plaintiffs also claimed that the deed was recorded in the Commonwealth Recorder's Office.

Plaintiffs alleged that Jose King became seriously ill in 2004. At that time, Jose King executed a general power of attorney to Quichocho.

Plaintiffs alleged that Quichocho, acting under the power of attorney and in collaboration with his brother-in-law, Lebante, executed real property transactions conveying Jose King's "ownership interest" in the two lots to Palacios pursuant to quit claim deeds.

Plaintiffs allege that the quit claim deeds were recorded in the Commonwealth Recorder's Office.

Plaintiffs claimed that defendants collected and retained rents from the tenants of the two lots.

Plaintiffs also alleged that defendants may have made claims with the Federal Emergency Management Agency for typhoon damage.

Plaintiffs said the defendants padlocked the premises and prevented them from using or occupying the premises.

Plaintiffs also alleged that Quichocho physically and/or verbally attempted to evict plaintiffs and called the police to arrest plaintiffs on their own land.

Among other relief, plaintiffs seek to quiet title and obtain damages from defendants.

In response, defendants filed a motion to dismiss the complaint for failure to state a cause of action.

Green Meadow School celebrates the 'seeds' of the future



Green Meadow students win the audience over with their costumes.

DENNIS B. CHAN

By **DENNIS B. CHAN**
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Green Meadow School celebrated the "seeds" of the future—their students—at their 13th Annual Recognition Program at the Charley's Cabaret at Pacific Islands Club Saipan yesterday.

The ceremony, originally set at another avenue, was held at PIC due to the recent Typhoon Dolphin.

A crowd still turned up, though, made of parents and family eager to take photos of their little ones.

The ceremony awarded the school's Kindergarten to fifth grade students with certificates, medals, or trophies for skills they've improved in or bested at in the school year.

School principal Milagros Songcuan recognized her student's achievements in her opening remarks and highlighted their mission "to plant for eternity."

"If you plant for today, plant a flower. If you plant for years to come, plant trees [but] if you plant for eternity, plant people," she said, referring to her students.

Tan Holdings senior vice

president Eli Arago, who was the inspirational speaker yesterday, echoed Songcuan when he emphasized the "seeds of knowledge that will ignite desire to discover more."

This will lead to the pursuit to succeed in life, he told the students.

Arago reminded students that he and their parents had much harder obstacles while growing up in the Philippines. He said he had to walk five kilometers in the morning and afternoon to and from school.

He also noted that some began their education at 7 years

old after spending their previous years helping their family.

But today's students can start their education as early as 3 years old, he said.

"Education is the best weapon in the battlefield of life," he said. "I hope you study hard because your parents worked hard."

Green Meadow School is a preparatory school on island with campuses at Gualo Rai and Chalan Kiya.

Yesterday's theme was from author Robert Louis Stevenson: "Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap but by the seeds that you plant."

Despite typhoon, Java Bakery reopens

By **FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA**
frauleine_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

After Typhoon Dolphin's gusty winds and rains on Friday night, a warm Saturday morning was waiting for Saipan residents as Java Bakery reopened in Paradise Hotel on Middle Road.

One would think that after a storm, everyone would just stay home but surprisingly, a lot has been up and about very early. The bakery opened at 7am and did a simple ribbon cutting around 8am. Around that time,

more than 50 people have already dropped by.

"Very busy, but very good. Seems to have a lot of happy customers and this is my first day of offering lunches and so far it's been a pretty enthusiastic reception, so I'm very happy about it," owner Sarah Fryling said.

"In spite of the power going out three times while I was trying to get ready this morning, it still turned out pretty well," she added.

According to Fryling, she wasn't much intimidated by the

cyclone because she was banking on the forecasts that said it will be gone by Sunday morning.

Instead of thinking there won't be much customers, she viewed it as a perfect opportunity.

"I figured people probably aren't going to have power, they're going to be bored, there's nothing much to do today, everything's closed. It's a perfect opportunity for me to give them something to do, somewhere to go," Fryling said.

Adding to her luck, Paradise Hotel was fully occupied the night before because of the typhoon. Some of them went for

breakfast at her bakery.

Aside from adults who woke up early, or maybe weren't able to sleep at all, children also enjoyed their breakfast while playing in the kid's corner.

And despite coming from a chilly and scary night, the atmosphere in the shop was fun and light—which may be because of the warm drinks and comforting food.

"I've had a lot of hot chocolate orders. That's kind of an unusual order, not too many people get that but it seems to be appealing today," she said.

Rota mayor: DPW ‘working hard’ to improve landfill

By THOMAS MANGLONA II
CORRESPONDENT

The Department of Public Works is “working hard” to improve the Rota dumpsite, according to Rota Mayor Efraim Atalig.

“A daily cover over the dumpsite has been maintained to minimize the pile of trash, control odors, vectors, and fires,” he told *Saipan Tribune* in an email.

Atalig said the department has dispersed trash in what was once an overflowing dumpsite as well as covered it with mixed soil materials in order to comply with an administrative order issued by the Division of Environmental Quality.

The improvements come after this reporter published photos and a story featuring the lack of maintenance of the southern island’s only dumpsite by previous municipal administrations. When Atalig was questioned about the issue in the infancy of his mayoral term last December, he vowed to address the situation appropriately.

Atalig said two DPW employees have already been assigned to maintain the dumpsite periodically throughout the week. Two other employees are currently undergoing training from experienced equipment operators to become adept in equipment mobilization and how to properly maintain the dumpsite.

Three other individuals who were hired under provisional appointments will also take part in the daily maintenance of the dumpsite.

Several other positions have been created in order to properly maintain the dumpsite. According to Atalig, DPW is



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Rota dumpsite receives a facelift after dozens of residents expressed health concerns over its condition in the past decade.

opening five equipment operator positions and is hiring one equipment operator supervisor.

“These positions will be under one year limited term appointment and the subject for continuation upon completion of the one-year appointment term,” he said. “In the immediate future, DPW will expedite the training of these employees

to Saipan Solid Waste Management area in Marpi or to SWANA’s Company in Dallas, Texas, to improve their skills and knowledge over landfill maintenance operations.”

Atalig noted the successful collaboration of his office, Department of Public Works, and the Capital Improvement Projects Office on Saipan in ad-

ressing one of the residents’ long-time grievances.

Atalig said the Office of the Capital Improvement Project, under Virginia Villagomez and project engineer Elizabeth Balajadia, have completed the new design for the enhancement of the landfill. The office is working to expedite the opening for the bidding process of the con-

struction and improvement of the facility, designed by H.K. Pangelinan Engineering and Associates.

A 218 excavator, 930 front-end-loader, and D6 dozer from Hawthorne Pacific was purchased for the improvement of the landfill. The mayor’s office is also expecting a five-ton dump truck from JC Tenorio Enterprises for the project.

“Such equipment availability will eventually improve the public dump operation within the island of Rota. The plans are formidably in place and eventually will succeed in our quest of turning the public dump into a sanitary landfill operation,” Atalig said.

» Several employees hired under provisional appointment for maintenance

Continued funding for the maintenance effort will likely come from Capital Improvement Project funds

and the Solid Waste Management’s revolving fund account for Rota. He said those offices are working to identify an exact dollar figure for the expenses.

Atalig said that he will continue to push for the strict regulation of the dumpsite in order to make it “environmentally sound and sanitary”. He added, “...we will protect trash haulers and of course the general public from contaminated exposures and other waste disposals. It is about time that Rota step to the next level.”



are inviting qualified, U.S. workers to apply for the following positions:

CLUBMATES

Applicants must have previous related work experience and must pass all American Red Cross Lifeguard requirements (including a 300 yard continuous swim test); Sports-minded individuals are encouraged to apply; Must possess good verbal and written communication skills; Korean, Japanese and/or Russian language skills preferred; Paid training and free two year lifeguard certification course for eligible candidates. Must be able to work on evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) FRONT OFFICE MANAGER

Applicant must have the ability to manage all aspects of the Front Office operations, including a Guest Relation, Call Center, and Guest Service operations; Must have the ability to set Front Office Budget, monitor Profit and Loss. Minimum of five (5) years of hotel/hospitality is required. Minimum of two (2) years of previous experience managing the Front Office of a hotel is required. Excellent Leadership with written and oral communication skills is necessary. Must have the ability to set an upsell program and work as part of the Yield Management team in maximize revenue for the hotel. Must computer knowledge on as PMS-Property Management System, Opera. Must be able to speak and understand one or more of the following languages: Korean, Japanese or Russian; Must be able to work graveyard shifts, evenings, weekends, and holidays.

(4) KIDS CLUB ASSISTANT

Applicants must be able to pass/obtain First Aid/CPR certification. Must be comfortable in the water and be able to swim. Applicant must have previous experience working with children. Applicant must be at least 16 years of age. Ability to comprehend and speak Japanese, Korean or Russian language is preferred. Strong communication, interpersonal and customer service skills are essential. The position requires the ability to work under pressure and time constraints. Must be able to work under flexible schedule including morning hours, weekends and holidays.

(1) MERCHANDISER

Applicant must have a minimum of one (1) year of work experience handling clerical work involved with receiving, storing, stocking, inventory and distribution of supplies for the Boutiki store. Must have good computer skills and have the ability to bend, lift, carry, push, reach and handle inventory supplies weighing 50-75 pounds. Must have the ability to speak, read and comprehend the English language. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) POOL MAINTENANCE

Applicant must have a minimum of two (2) years related work experience; Previous HAZMAT training preferred; Shift begins at 2:00 a.m. daily. Must be able to work evenings, weekends, and holidays.

(1) PUBLIC AREA ATTENDANT

Applicant must have a minimum six (6) months of work experience. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

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Applicant must have a minimum of one (1) year of experience as a room attendant for a hotel. Motivated, self-starter responsible for cleaning up to 17 rooms per shift. Must be able to work evenings, weekends, graveyard shifts and holidays.

(1) SALES & MARKETING MANAGER – JAPAN MARKET

Applicant must have a minimum of two (2) years of Sales experience in the hotel industry is required. Four (4) years College degree preferred. Proficiency in Japanese language (verbal, written, reading and understanding) as well as Japanese MS Office, Epitome, and Japanese hotel booking systems is required. Must be able to work evenings/weekends/holidays.

(1) SEA INFORMATION / CASHIER

Applicant must be able to pass American Red Cross First Aid/CPR certification courses. Applicant must possess strong communication, interpersonal and customer service skills. The position requires a minimum of six (6) months of previous work experience in a cash handling position. The ability to comprehend and speak Japanese, Korean or Russian language is preferred but not required. The position requires the ability to work under pressure and time constraints. The applicant must be able to stand for long periods of time. The applicant must be able to work a flexible schedule which includes early morning hours, nights, weekends and holidays.

(1) S.E.A. SCHEDULER/CLUBMATE

Applicant must be a certified American Red Cross lifeguard with a minimum of three years of experience. Must possess excellent verbal and written communication skills. Must have working knowledge of Microsoft Word and be proficient with Microsoft Excel, with the ability to work well under pressure. Strong attention to detail and the ability to work under deadlines are necessary qualifications for the S.E.A Scheduler. Applicants must be versed in the operations and rotations of the S.E.A department. Position will be asked to work various shifts in the hotels' waterpark, so sports-minded individuals are encouraged to apply. Korean, Japanese and/or Russian language skills preferred. Must be able to work evenings, weekends, and holidays.

(1) WEB MARKETING MANAGER / GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Applicant must have experience in reviewing and analyzing web analytics tools; Must be proficient in the use of Apple MC, MS Office, HTML and web design; Must be proficient in graphic design software in a MAC environment using: Adobe Photoshop Creative Suite 6.0, Adobe Indesign and Adobe Illustrator; Must have strong organizational skills along with the ability to create high visual impact design. Must be able to work evenings/weekends/holidays.

Applications must be received by 5:00pm on Thursday, May 28th, 2015.
PIC applications are available at the PIC Security Desk by the Loading Dock/Employee Entrance. Incomplete applications will NOT be accepted or considered.
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Saipan, Commonwealth of the)
Northern Mariana Islands) s.s.
)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that pursuant to P.L. 15-117, a public auction will be conducted as follows:

- General Description of Property:
Various Electrical parts and supplies
- Occupant of Storage Facility:
Powersource Energy Services, Inc.
- Name and Address of Storage Facility:
Consolidated Transportation Services, Inc.
REM Warehouse Building
Lower Base, Saipan

Date, Time and Place of Sale: The sale, open to the general public, will be held on Wednesday, June 17, 2015, at 2:00 p.m. at the REM Warehouse Building located at Lower Base, Saipan. The property will be sold on an “as is” basis without any warranty, express or implied.

Dated this 7th day of May, 2015.

/s/ Steven P. Pixley, Esq.
Attorney for CTSI
Third Floor, TSL Plaza
Beach Road, Garapan
Tel. No.: (670) 233-2898/5175

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Opinion

Hafa Adali

Saipan Tribune

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Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950**Jayvee L. Vallejera** EDITOR
jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com**Mark Rabago** ASSOCIATE EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Can Congress actually help alleviate middle-class anxiety?

The pressures on America's middle class confront America's political leaders with their hardest possible test—one that, to be frank, they're going to fail. That's because the problem doesn't lend itself to one-shot fixes. Instead, it requires a lot of smaller ideas all pulling together. In Washington, this kind of strategic coherence doesn't come naturally.

That's no excuse for inaction. Intermittent progress is still progress. As a matter of practical politics, it's important not to let the perfect be the enemy of the good.

A good example of what happens when you ignore that advice is playing out at the moment.

For months, President Barack Obama has been asking Congress for so-called fast-track negotiating authority, which would allow him to conclude the Trans-Pacific Partnership agreement, a far-reaching plan to promote commerce among the U.S. and 11 of its trading partners. Many on Capitol Hill—especially the president's fellow Democrats—are opposed both to fast tracking and to the TPP, seeing a new threat to the living standards of working Americans.

With so much opposition, it's unclear whether this and other pending trade deals can get done. If they can't, that would be unfortunate, because openness to trade is indispensable for the kind of economic growth that is necessary for an aspiring and steadily more prosperous middle class.

This isn't to say that rejecting the TPP and other new trade-boosting arrangements would be an economic catastrophe. The U.S. would still be one of the most open—hence competitive and productive—economies in the world. Blocking the TPP would merely squander the best opportunity in years to build on this strength by taking international economic integration further.

To be sure, making the most of that opportunity does require other steps. Increased competition through trade, like any other kind of competition, means new and better products at lower prices—which is good for the middle class (and everybody else). But the process isn't painless. Some workers would see their wages fall, and others might lose their jobs. The dislocation can be tempered but not eliminated.

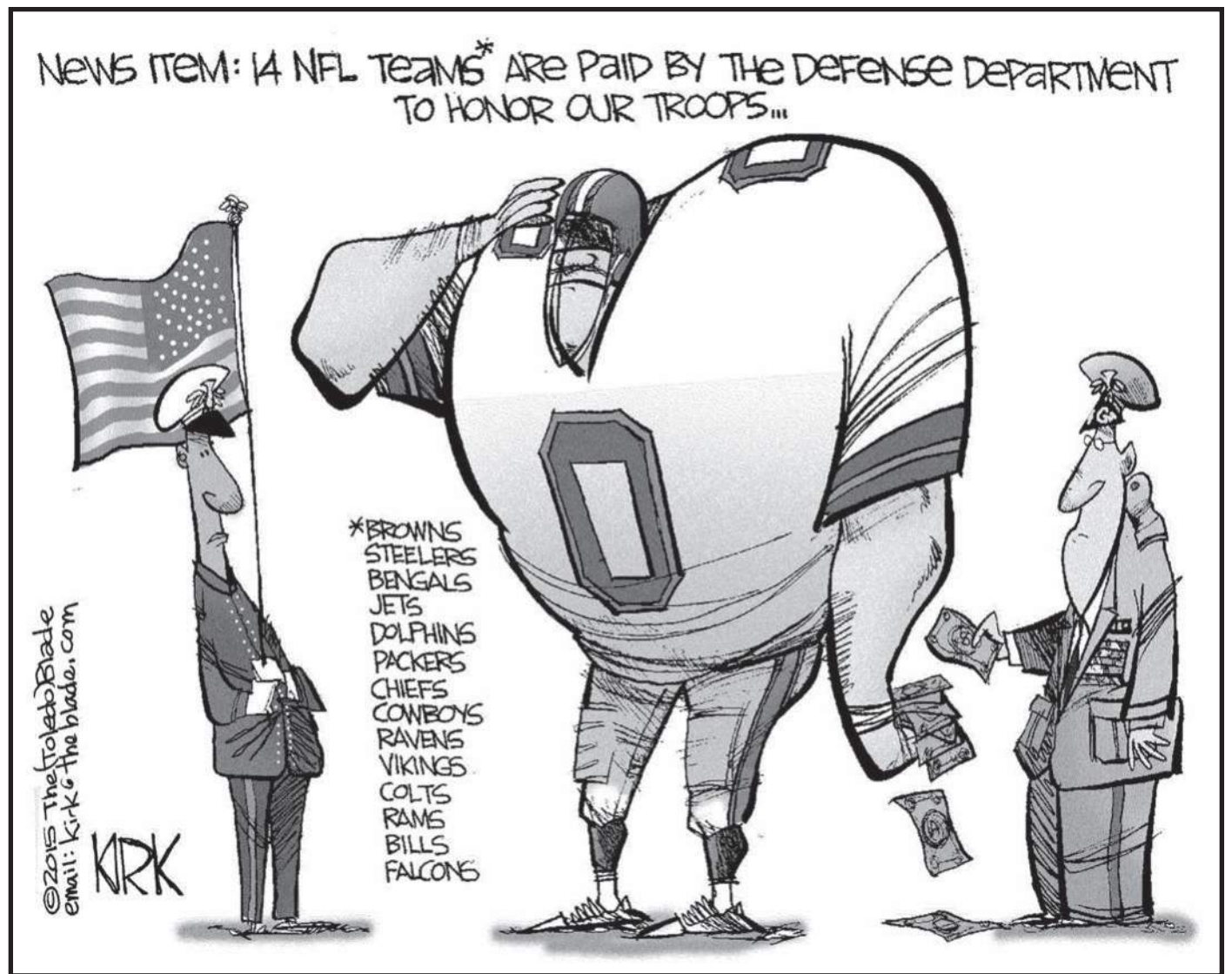
Tempered how? If domestic demand is strong enough to keep the labor market tight, workers displaced by increased trade will find other work more easily. Better opportunities to train or retrain for new jobs would help. So would fewer obstacles to starting new businesses. A safety net fit for the purpose, protecting people without pushing them away from employment, is vital. What about other measures to make families more financially secure? They're needed as well.

It can't be done all at once, though, and insisting that the creative destruction of market forces has to pause in the meantime would be a formula for stagnation. The interests of the American middle class will be better served by expanding trade—meaning enterprise and ambition on a global scale—than by stasis or retreat.

On policy, you make progress when and where you can. An opportunity to encourage trade and competition presents itself? Seize it. Then move swiftly on the broader agenda, acting on every chance to promote employment, widen opportunity and spread prosperity.

Ideally, do all of the above. Realistically, do any of the above rather than nothing.

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Three girls by the pump

It was in the late '70s on an island called Mactan off Cebu City in the Philippines. My family resided in the village of Sudtonggan, Lapu-Lapu City, named after the island warrior who taught Magellan to mind his own business.

We were part of a global staff that did not learn Magellan's fatal lesson not to interfere with other peoples' affair. We did. Intentional busybodies doing human development demo on every time zone as the Institute of Cultural Affairs, we were convinced that the cultural aspect in development preceded those of the economic and political, not in a hierarchical but in a chronological sense.

Like intruders in other places, the community treated gringos (I was the local color married to a pale-faced gringa) with great deference and built a staff house on the limestone field, only for it to be mysteriously torched in the middle of the night.

We moved to the training school grounds, hastily adding an extension. Two families on staff had daughters of the same age and the same first names. Trailing two years behind was my second daughter. They were three young innocent girls who were self-conscious in shedding their loose island attire to cool off their tropical sun-heated bodies in the open water pump by the training school quad when the enclosed bathrooms were occupied.

The Sudtonggan village "identity" was dramatically made when our sleeping young children were left with only their cotton nighties to wear after the fire. The parents were leading a project replication at a consult in another village on the other side of the island. The children's belongings burned but the villagers brought out their children's Sunday best for our kids to wear. Their gesture grounded our lessons on public expenditure. Symbol is key and sharing their best is not explained in economic and political terms. It reflected a self-understanding of authentic sharing that came naturally.

The fire and its aftermath made dealing with the economic easier as the trust from villagers "that the foreigners knew what they were doing" was made manifest. Real dialogue was possible. Being of facilitative style, we enabled them to do what they already knew how to do, asking them what resources they had on hand. "We only have rocks" was the response.

They chopped rocks into blocks used under the house posts to keep the poles from rotting. They also fashioned corn grinders, mortars and pestles. We took a block of the rock to the local Rotary Club and an architect sliced it in his shop, finding it suitable as façade material for buildings and homes, and polished material for counter and tabletops.

The government forbade harvests of coral-limestone at the time. Corals were alive so it was a good ecological policy; the dead limestone embedded with dead coral became a substitute. New homes in Manila, Cebu and Davao's gated communities built in the late '70s and early '80s had façades of Mactan stone, the rocks' new market

By **JAIME VERGARA**
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com.



name. I found them in Guam and Saipan, and places that shipped containers to the Philippines that returned with not much load. An industry was born. Mactan came alive.

The village was 20 years on the schedule of municipal public service delivery. We got the stone workers to share a percentage of earnings so the village can purchase their fuel on a donated power generator to cut stones daytime and provide electric current to homes at night. We trained them to run their own social programs.

A village resident donated a piece of land for the Department of Education to build classrooms for the first three grades and assign teachers to staff them. A health clinic was established that had village mothers trained in hygiene and sanitation—kept the wells covered, did laundry at a distance to avoid well and water contamination. That led to hand pumps and bamboo pipes.

Unschooling girls staffed the health clinic, maintained records led by an unschooled mother; the village was ready for the regular rounds of the public nurse and doctor.

It lasted two years before individual villagers broke out to pursue their own private interest. Electricity short-circuited often as homes with TVs, cassette players, radios, and irons overloaded the 14 KVA system. Happily, it hastened the municipio's metered consumption and grid connection.

The stone industry attracted buyers who paid workers in advance to assure inventory but skipped the percentage cut for the communal structures of health, education and welfare. A short-term view, but we worked with what was on the ground rather than impose values and objective goals until the village was ready to formulate them on their own. In the meantime, we ended the demo phase and left the village to their own devices.

The three girls by the pump now have families of their own, living in sophisticated suburban surroundings. None of them developed PTSD, nor do they spend sleepless nights from the "trauma" of the midnight fire. They just giggle when reminded that they bathed at the quad's open water pump *au naturel* when they were young. *Tee hee*, their own children chime!

Amtrak catastrophe highlights nation's embarrassing abandonment of infrastructure needs

Regardless of any human error, it didn't have to happen. That's the takeaway from the Amtrak 188 catastrophe. Even if evidence suggests that the engineer caused the train to travel 106 mph in a 50 mph zone, technology has existed for years that could have prevented this accident. But like so much of our needed infrastructure repairs, it'll be a day late and dollar short.

The Advanced Civil Speed Enforcement System, a form of which is called Positive Train Control technology, could have ensured that eight deaths and more than 200 injuries didn't occur, but it has yet to be installed in the critical area in Philadelphia where Amtrak 188 jumped the tracks while traversing a significant curve. This form of PTC has existed for years and was supposed to have been installed throughout the Northeast Corridor by the end of this year, but that still might not happen given that several bills which could delay implementation are currently pending in Congress.

Robert Sumwalt, a member of the National Transportation Safety Board who is investigating the crash, could not have been more clear when on Wednesday he said: "And so we have called for Positive Train Control for many, many years. It's on our most-wanted list. Congress has mandated that it be installed by the end of this year. So we are very keen on Positive Train Control. Based on what we know right now, we feel that had such a system been installed in this section of track, this accident would not have occurred."

That observation is no surprise to former Gov. Ed Rendell, who had infrastructure on the brain since the train left the tracks. While carefully saying the cause of the accident was still not fully known, the morning after he shared with me what he believed to be the deficiency in our current design.

"We need a dedicated high-speed rail line, that is straight as an arrow, that has no other trains on it, no commuter trains, no freight trains, and we've gotta pay for it," he said. "People understand in life, you get what you pay for. If you buy a \$10,000 car, you don't get a car as good as a \$30,000 car. It's as simple as that."

Rendell cited statistics from the World Economic Forum that he said speak to America's slippage in our worldwide standing with

regard to infrastructure. "We're behind countries like Malaysia. It's a disgrace. It's an embarrassment," he said. "And when a tragedy like this happens, for two weeks people will say, 'Well, we've gotta do something about it, we've gotta do something about it,' and then when it comes time, we're back to normal."

The lack of resolve that concerns the former mayor of Philadelphia is supported in one assessment of the 2016 contenders for president. As of the time of the Amtrak 188 crash, eight major-party candidates had declared their presidential ambitions. Each has an official website, and five of them addressed issues on their site. Only one—Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt.—offered anything regarding infrastructure. (Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, gave examples of his voting record, none of which included votes on infrastructure. Hillary Clinton and Carly Fiorina had yet to publish their platforms online.) Sanders touted his recent sponsorship of a six-year, \$478 billion infrastructure investment that was defeated in a Senate vote, 52-45.

Had you visited RandPaul.com/issues at the time of the crash, you would have seen his stance on enforcing term limits for "career politicians." Over at MarcoRubio.com/issues, there was information about why he thinks defense spending must grow. BenCarson.com/issues displayed the political neophyte's belief that Gitmo should remain open.

Indeed, each of the GOP contenders offers a view regarding Second Amendment rights, cutting the federal debt, and support for Israel, and plenty have had something to say on the stump about the Founding Fathers. But like most of their Democratic counterparts, when it comes to the foundation upon which our nation is built—roads, bridges and dams—there has been silence up until now.

Here's something equally scary: In comparison to other aspects of our infrastructure, rail is not so bad. In its most recent (2013) ranking, the American Society of Civil Engineers gave the U.S. infrastructure an overall assessment of D-plus. Our rail system warranted a C-plus, and all of the following received lesser evaluations: roads, airports, dams, drinking water, energy, hazardous waste, inland waterways, levees, ports, public parks and recreation, schools, transit and wastewater.

Learning from errors of pollsters

Spare a thought for the pollsters and pundits now occupied with the unpleasant task of wiping egg off their faces. The outcomes of a couple of recent parliamentary elections—in the United Kingdom and in Israel—have left the professional predictors licking their wounds, searching for errors and trying to salvage their pride.

OK, thought spared.

Now that you have shown compassion for the experts' plight, it's time to learn some useful citizenship lessons from the disastrous performance of the people who forecast the political future, whose skills we have come to trust much as the ancients did their oracles.

When British voters went to the polls, everyone, it seemed, knew what the results would bring. It would be a nail biter with no winner. The two big parties, Conservatives and Labor, would fight it out, the Tories (Conservatives) might edge slightly ahead, but would not reach a majority.

As a result, the smaller parties would become kingmakers, with the big ones depending on them to cobble together a governing majority.

It wasn't just the British pollsters. The American polling savant Nate Silver calculated the odds that Conservative Prime Minister Da-

vid Cameron would win an outright majority at "around 1 in 500."

Well, well. The voters showed them. Cameron, who had been governing in a coalition with the Liberal Democrats, emerged stronger than before, with an outright majority. Labor was demolished, with its worst performance in almost three decades. The LibDems, no longer kingmakers, barely exist in Parliament any more.

Political leaders (not Cameron) resigned en masse and in shame. The British Polling Council, the trade group, is organizing an investigation into what went wrong.

In Israel, the polls had also predicted a close election, even a defeat for Likud and Benjamin Netanyahu during the March election. The experts there got it wrong twice.

First, pollsters were saying that Netanyahu might just lose the prime minister's seat. The center-left opposition was pulling ahead. Likud looked set to win just 22 seats in the 120-seat Knesset, Israel's parliament. But that did not happen. Voters gave Netanyahu a strong showing—nothing near a majority, but then no one wins majorities in Israel.

They gave his Likud 30 seats, enough to win the chance to build a coalition. That's when the experts proved wrong a second time,

People are tired of empty words on immigration

During election campaigns, politicians toss around empty promises about immigration reform like candy.

President Barack Obama garnered support for his reformist approach on immigration and then deported more people than any other president before him. Now, presidential candidates Hillary Clinton and Jeb Bush are attempting to court the Latino vote, which is crucial for winning the 2016 election.

The GOP presidential contenders are all over the map. Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker has gone back and forth on whether he supports a path to citizenship. Florida Sen. Marco Rubio once drafted his own version of the DREAM Act (providing residence to many young undocumented immigrants), but never introduced it in Congress. He recently signed an amicus brief to support an injunction against the executive action Obama put forth last November allowing millions of undocumented immigrants to stay on in this country. And so did Texas Sen. Ted Cruz.

At one time, Bush and Rubio both supported a path to citizenship, but no longer. Former governors and current presidential aspirants Rick Perry and Mike Huckabee have put an emphasis on border security. These stances are sure to change now that Clinton has staked

By **ANGIE TRUDELL VASQUEZ**
Tribune News Service

Angie Trudell Vasquez is a poet and activist. She wrote this for Progressive Media Project, a source of liberal commentary on domestic and international issues; it is affiliated with The Progressive magazine.



a more progressive position on immigration than Obama.

The truth is that Republican presidential candidates need the growing Latino vote to win the White House. The party learned this the hard way in 2008 and realized it again in 2012. Moderate Republicans have been trying to push the GOP in the right direction, but their more hardline colleagues are not budging.

We need to move beyond empty posturing. Several million people are waiting for immigration reform and they are tired of campaign promises that don't amount to anything. They deserve better.

By **MICHAEL SMERCONISH**
The Philadelphia Inquirer

Michael Smerconish writes for The Philadelphia Inquirer, and is host of "Smerconish" on CNN. Readers may contact him at www.smerconish.com



Given that menu, Rendell is most concerned about roadways. "By 2040, there will be 30 million cars more on I-95 if we don't do something about it. Can you imagine I-95 with 30 million new cars?"

Like everything else, many seek to use infrastructure to further the partisan divide. And it's true that the Amtrak accident occurred while the House Appropriations Committee was in the midst of cutting Amtrak's funding to \$1.13 billion from roughly \$1.4 billion, despite ridership reaching an all-time high in 2014 along the Northeast Corridor. According to the Brookings Institution, Amtrak's ridership increased by 55 percent from 1997 to 2013 and continues to reach annual record highs.

"The Republican budget will cut the transportation funding in general, not just Amtrak, by 22 percent," Rendell said. "Cut? This is a time when we ought to be investing in a long-term 10-year infrastructure vitalization program for the country, for public safety, for economic competitiveness, for the middle-class well-paying jobs that we'd create, for so many different reasons, but everyone is scared to vote for revenue."

He's right. But there's plenty of blame to go around. Neither party is immune from dereliction of its duty when it comes to our infrastructure. Hopefully a renewed focus on our core concerns will be a positive outcome from a national embarrassment.

"How much more of this are we going to put up with in the United States of America?" Rendell asked.

By **FRIDA GHITIS**
Miami Herald

Frida Ghitis writes about global affairs for the Miami Herald. Readers may email her at fightis@gmail.com



predicting confidently that Netanyahu would easily cobble together a strong and stable right-wing coalition.

Netanyahu almost failed to put together a governing majority. He had 42 days to do it and pulled it off, just barely, in the last two hours. He now has a highly unstable coalition, with just 61 out of 120 seats. It could fall at any moment, and it makes the prime minister a hostage of his parliamentary allies.

The new government has such a tenuous foundation that Netanyahu has left open the highly coveted post of foreign minister; an insurance policy in case someone pulls out, so he can entice another party to join. The two most often mentioned are former Foreign Minister Avigdor Lieberman, who stunned Netanyahu by refusing to join his government, and Isaac Herzog, the Labor leader who now heads the opposition.

In short, nothing turned out as predicted.

In Britain, pollsters are listing the problems that caused their debacle. "Shy Tories," have been resurrected. That species was discovered in 1992, when voters told pollsters they supported Labor, and then voted for the hyper-beige Conservative John Major, making him prime minister.

Others speak of statistical sampling errors, of the trouble with on-line polling, and of the tendency of many citizens to make up their minds at the last minute.

It seems voters tell pollsters what they think they want to hear, or they change their minds after they answer the questions. Or maybe they think it's embarrassing to be conservative.






London Mayor Boris Johnson, a Tory, says it's time for Conservatives to make the case that their views are as moral and compassionate as those of the left and nothing to be ashamed of.

That's all for politicians and pollsters to sort out. For voters, there are important lessons: Always take the polls and the experts' views with a dose of skepticism.

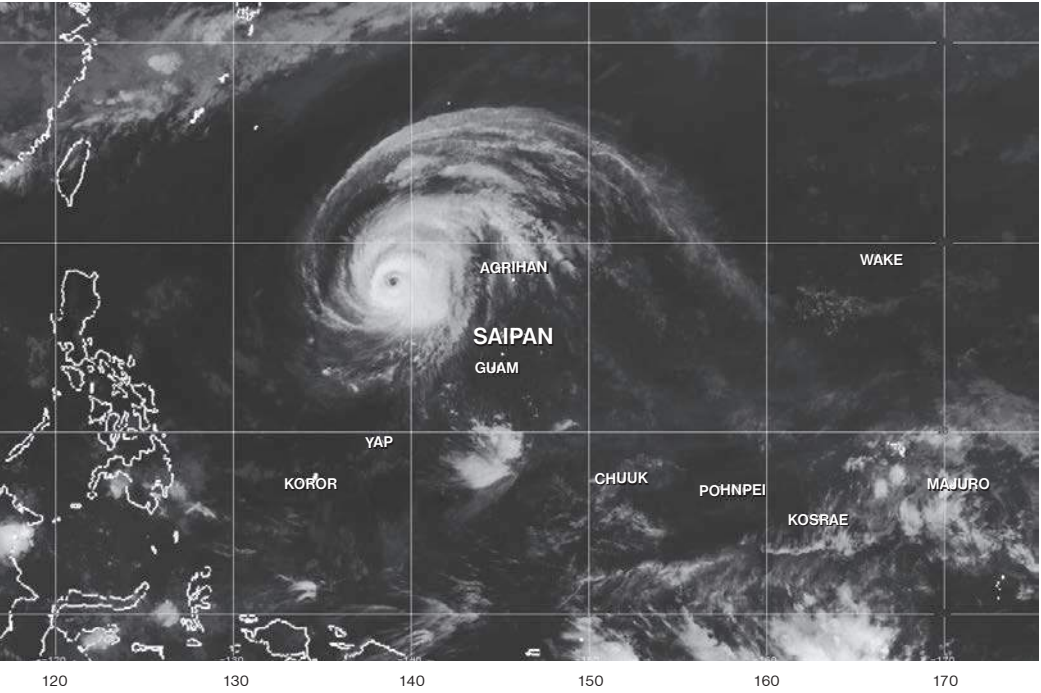
There is a perilous human habit of following the crowd, to think "they" have it right; to want to back the winner. It's a tough job, but it's yours: Listen to the candidates and make up your own mind. "They" may end up changing theirs.

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
 Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. South winds 10 to 15 mph.	 Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. South winds 10 to 15 mph.	 Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	 Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	 Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲86° ▼77°	▲86° ▼77°	▲86° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, MAY 17, 2015
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Super Typhoon Dolphin (07W) is centered 495 miles west-northwest of Saipan near 18N139E and moving northwest at 12 mph with maximum sustained winds of 160 mph. Heavy rain and scattered thunderstorms are occurring within 90 miles of the center. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found north, east and southeast of the center within 45 miles of a line from 20N138E to 21N141E to 17N142E. Isolated thunderstorms are seen farther south within 35 miles of a line from 14N134E to 13N137E to 15N140E to 17N142E and also northeast within 50 miles of a line from 24N140E to 25N144E to 20N147E. For more information on Super Typhoon Dolphin, see bulletins issued by the Joint Typhoon Warning Center under WMO header WTPN32 PGTW and the National Weather Service under WMO header WTPQ32 PGUM. A monsoon trough curves southeastward from Super Typhoon Dolphin passing south of Chuuk near 6N151E to end at a tropical disturbance centered northeast of Kosrae at 7N164E. Isolated thunderstorms are present near the trough south of Guam between 9N and 11N from 144E to 147E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are evident near the disturbance over the Marshall Islands between 5N and 10N from 164E to 172E.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia			
Guam And Rota	Thundershowers	▲85	▼81
Palau	Partly Cloudy	▲89	▼78
Yap	Partly Cloudy	▲86	▼77
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	▲87	▼80
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼78
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼79
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲83	▼79

Around the Globe			
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲64	▼52
Beijing	Windy	▲83	▼58
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼80
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	▲82	▼70
London	Rain	▲60	▼46
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	▲67	▼54
Manila	Mostly Sunny	▲94	▼80
Melbourne	Showers	▲64	▼53
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲86	▼75
New York	Cloudy	▲68	▼58
Osaka	Mostly Cloudy	▲75	▼64
Paris	Mostly Sunny	▲70	▼47
Pusan	Sunny	▲77	▼58
Rome	Sunny	▲89	▼62
Salem	Mostly Cloudy	▲77	▼53
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲59	▼51
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲76	▼52
Tokyo	Rain	▲73	▼64
Washington, DC	Thundershowers	▲89	▼70



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tides			
Saipan Harbor			
2:32 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.9 Feet
7:53 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.1 Feet
3:01 PM	Today	Low Tide:	-0.4 Feet
9:43 PM	Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset		
Today	5:49 AM	6:39 PM
Tuesday	5:48 AM	6:40 PM
Wednesday	5:48 AM	6:40 PM
Thursday	5:48 AM	6:40 PM
Friday	5:48 AM	6:41 PM

Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	5:43 AM	6:45 PM
Tuesday	6:36 AM	7:43 PM
Wednesday	7:30 AM	8:39 PM
Thursday	8:24 AM	9:31 PM
Friday	9:18 AM	10:20 PM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

NEWS DESK

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF APRIL 2, 2015

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily	UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA5068	8:00am	8:50am	3	UA5071	6:40am	7:30am	3
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7	UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	2:15pm	3:55pm	6, 7 via Rota	UA5039	12:55pm	1:45pm	6, 7
UA5078	3:05pm	3:55pm	1, 5	UA5038	1:00pm	2:35pm	2, 4 via Rota
UA5038	3:05pm	3:55pm	2, 4	UA5077	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 5
UA5040	6:55pm	7:45pm	1, 5	UA5041	5:35pm	6:25pm	1, 5
UA5078	8:35pm	9:25pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7	UA5077	7:15pm	8:05pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA5044	10:40pm	11:30pm	1, 5	UA5043	9:20pm	10:10pm	1, 5
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)				GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA5039	2:15pm	2:50pm	6, 7	UA5038	1:00pm	1:35pm	2, 4
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)				ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA5039	3:20pm	3:55pm	6, 7	UA5038	2:00pm	2:35pm	2, 4
SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)				PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:05am	1:05am+1	2, 6 via NRT	DL298	4:30am	2:55pm	3, 7 via NRT
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:05am	8:45am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6	DL298	10:25am	2:55pm	Daily
DL297	4:20pm	7:10pm	Daily	DL288	8:55pm	1:25am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1	OZ623	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	7C3402	9:30am	3:20pm	1, 2, 4, 7
7C3403	4:35am	8:20am	1, 2, 5, 6, 7	7C3402	10:55am	4:25pm	3, 5, 6
7C3403	5:25am	9:10am	3, 4	OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ624	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily	OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3401	4:20pm	8:05pm	1, 2, 4, 7	7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily
7C3401	5:25pm	9:10pm	3, 5, 6				
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7	OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	6:00am	8:35am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:30pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	1:30am	5:30am	3, 5, 7	MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:30am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:55pm	3:10am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN	OZ704/623	12:10am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	DL276/288	9:30am	1:25am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT
UA5070/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM	UA190/5077	9:55am	8:05pm	2, ,3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5070/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA5070/183	4:15am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
DL287/275	4:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	PR110/UA5071	10:05pm	7:30am+1	3 via GUM
DL287/275	6:05am	9:30pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6 via NRT	PR110/UA5071	10:05pm	8:05am+1	1, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5068/183	8:00am	9:10pm	3 via GUM	UA184/5071	10:25pm	7:30am+1	3 via GUM
UA5068/183	8:40am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM	UA184/5071	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5068/183	8:40am	9:10pm	1, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	UA184/5039	10:25pm	1:45pm+1	6, 7 via GUM
UA5039/183	2:15pm	9:10pm	6, 7 via Rota-GUM	UA184/5077	10:25pm	2:35pm+1	1 via GUM
UA5038/183	3:05pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM	UA184/5038	10:25pm	2:35pm+1	4 via GUM-Rota
UA5078/183	3:05pm	8:50pm	5 via GUM	UA184/5041	10:25pm	6:25pm+1	1 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:05pm	9:10pm	1 via GUM	UA184/5077	10:25pm	8:05pm+1	3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5038/183	3:05pm	9:10pm	4 via GUM	UA184/5043	10:25pm	10:10pm+1	1 via GUM
OZ624/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	Daily via ICN	UA184/5071	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
				UA184/5038	11:30pm	2:35pm+1	2 via GUM-Rota
				UA184/5077	11:30pm	2:35pm+1	5 via GUM
				UA184/5041	11:30pm	6:25pm+1	5 via GUM
				UA184/5077	11:30pm	8:05pm+1	2 via GUM
				UA184/5043	11:30pm	10:10pm+1	5 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ746/623	12:40am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA5070/179	4:15am	9:55pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA5068/179	8:00am	9:55pm	3 via GUM	UA180/5071	9:55pm	7:30am+1	3 via GUM
UA5068/179	8:40am	9:55pm	1, 5, 6 via GUM	UA180/5071	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 5, 6 via GUM
UA5039/179	2:15pm	9:55pm	6 via Rota-GUM	UA180/5039	9:55pm	1:50pm+1	6 via GUM
UA5078/179	3:05pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via GUM	UA180/5077	9:55pm	2:40pm+1	1, 5 via GUM-Rota
OZ624/749	3:30pm	11:00pm	Daily via ICN	UA180/5041	9:55pm	6:25pm+1	1, 5 via GUM
				UA180/5077	9:55pm	8:05pm+1	3, 6 via GUM
				UA180/5043	9:55pm	10:10pm+1	1, 5 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.								
TINIAN TO SAIPAN			SAIPAN TO TINIAN			SAIPAN TO ROTA		
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Mon, Tue,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily	7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
			8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily			
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily	4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily			
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily			
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily	12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily			
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily			
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily			
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily			
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily			
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily			
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily			
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily						
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily						

ROTA TO SAIPAN		
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

Typhoon Dolphin sinks vessel in Guam's Sasa Bay

SANTA RITA, Guam—The U.S. Coast Guard responded to a diesel fuel spill from a sunken fishing vessel near Paradise Island yesterday.

Watchstanders at Coast Guard Sector Guam received notification, Saturday, that 50-foot recreational vessel *Makena* was missing after breaking free of its mooring during Typhoon Dolphin.

After conducting a search for the vessel, a diesel sheen was observed north of Polaris Point. Sonar imaging and a dive crew determined



the source of the spill to be *Makena*, which sank in 15 feet of water with approximately 1,500 gallons of diesel on board.

Naval Explosive Ordnance Division and Guam Police Department assisted Sector Guam in identifying the vessel's location.

Sector Guam established a 50-yard safety zone around the vessel and a broadcast notice to mariners. Any person entering this safety zone, on

The 50-foot recreational vessel *Makena*, inset, sinks in 15 feet of water with approximately 1,500 gallons of diesel on board.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

or below the water's surface, without the permission of the Captain of the Port is subject to a civil penalty of up to \$40,000 and/or criminal penalties of up to \$50,000 and up to five years imprisonment, or both.

The Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund has been opened in the amount of \$50,000.

Response operations have begun to mitigate the release of diesel fuel and minimize the environmental impact to the surrounding marine habitat. Operations will continue through the week in an effort to remove any pollutants that could harm the environment.

(USCG)

Interior grants \$650K to combat threats to coral reefs

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Assistant Secretary for Insular Affairs Esther Kia'aina approved nearly \$650,000 in initial grant assistance provided under the Coral Reef Initiative program in the Office of Insular Affairs to fund several efforts to reduce threats and improve management of coral reefs in the U.S. insular areas.

The goal of the CRI program is to improve the health of coral reefs and marine resources in the nation's island territories and Freely Associated States for their long-term economic and social benefit. The funded projects will build capacity, public education and awareness for coral reef protection in the U.S. insular areas.

"Coral reef resources are under threat from a variety of stresses, including sedimentation, poor water quality, overharvesting, coastal development and climate change," said Kia'aina. "It is important to build capacity by training high school and college students interested in coral reef protection and management and increasing education and awareness for the general public. These grants will help achieve these objectives while addressing local threats and improving the overall health of coral reefs that are critical to the livelihoods of island communities."

Micronesia Conservation Trust will receive \$175,000 to implement the goals of the 2013-2016 Strategic Action Plan of the Pacific Islands Managed and Protected Areas Community. Activities include implementing priority actions for addressing vulnerability and adaption to climate change; conducting on-the-ground, community-based conservation projects; and training youth in marine resource management.

Other projects outside of FSM that will receive funding include American Samoa, Guam, CNMI, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. (U.S. Embassy Kolonia)

MHS' Dizon represents NMI at Intel science fair

Botev • Samantha Bouchal • Refal Bougis • Renad Bougis • Catharine Bowman • Sarah Bowman • Sarah Braa • Careaga • Julianne Carlson • Robert Carlson • Yarden Carmel • Christopher Carragher • Harold Carrigan • Jalnareddy • Sio In Cheong • Yu-Yi Chiang • Temur Chichua • Andrea Chin-Lopez • Preston Ching • Man Ying Cnther Cwioro • Jeremy D'Silva • Luiz da Silva Borges • Mariana da Silva Chermont • Laila Daher • Upasana Dahiya • Ramos • Arsh Dilbagi • Valeriy • Carl Dixon • Maria Theresa Dizon • Kyle Dockendorf • Samantha Dodson • Elnur Efendi • Lia Eguia • Monica Eguia • Murahit Ekinici • Noorhan El-Bassyony • M • Florence • Lucas Flores • Savannah Floyd • Shanell Folger • Calista Foo • Kyle Jyoti Ghosh • Roy Ghosh • Ben Gibbs • John Gilles • Mary Carmelle Antonette Gindap



Maria Dizon points at her name on the wall of ISEF participants.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Maria Theresa Dizon, a senior at Marianas High School, is joining the STEP UP Program once again this summer, after working and conducting experiments on her project last year, "Inhibiting the *Copula Siviicki*'s (box jellyfish) Stinging Cell Discharge." She worked under the supervision of Roy Adsit, science teacher at SSHS, and Dr. Angel Yanagihara, assistant research professor at the University of Hawaii and an expert on jellyfish.

Dizon has presented her project in the Asia Pacific Academy of Science, Education and

Environmental Management. Her project abstract has been published in the *Ethnicity and Disease Journal*, which is the official journal for the International Society on Hypertension in Blacks. She competed in the Science Technology Engineering and Math Fair earlier in March and became the overall winner for the 9-12th grade Cluster.

With 1,702 high school students coming from over 75 countries, Maria is the sole representative of the CNMI in the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair in Pittsburgh,

PA. With a multitude of learning and exploring experiences, the highlights included a Q&A session with a panel of Nobel laureates and exclusive access to a night at the Heinz Field, home of the Pittsburgh Steelers. Results and awards will be announced soon.

Dizon is under the supervision of her mentor, Adsit, and the PSS Science Program coordinator Annette Pladevega.

"What an honor it is to be a part of Maria's blossoming future in science as she presents her esteemed work on preventing jellyfish stinging cells. The



Maria Dizon poses in front of her project.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Maria Dizon at the Heinz Stadium.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

community stands behind her as we applaud your current successes and future endeavors," said Pladevega.

"We are very proud of Maria. She represents the best of CNMI science. She is smart and

caring and will represent the CNMI magnificently here at Intel ISEF," said Adsit.

In the future, Dizon plans to pursue a career that involves her two passions: science and law. (PR)

Time for CNMI to have a drug court, lawmakers say

Now is the best time for the CNMI to have a “drug court” to combat the increasing number of cases involving methamphetamine or “ice,” lawmakers said.

The “drug court” is different from a regular court because it will have specialized personnel handling drug cases.

According to Rep. Joseph Lee Pan Guerrero (R-Saipan), the drug court will have a psychologist and treatment provider, among others, who are

equipped with the necessary specialties to handle drug cases.

“One of our biggest social issue is ‘ice,’ and it has become an epidemic,” Guerrero said.

Guerrero, a former CNMI Chief of Parole, said the drug court plays an “integral” part in the fight against drugs.

“The drug court can recommend different treatments. The court can recommend a diversion program, instead of incarceration,” he said.

He added that the psychologist and treatment provider will assist the drug user to complete a prescribed program recommended by the court. And if the offender fails to complete the program, it is only then that incarceration becomes an option.

The lawmaker, however, admitted that the drug court proposal has been going on for many years now but has not really taken off due to the lack of funds.

He said he will support legislation to fund one.

Sen. Sixto Igisomar (R-Saipan) earlier said he is in the process of finalizing a campaign to further combat the proliferation of “ice.”

His campaign will also involve a “drug court” and rehabilitation centers as well as the Department of Public Safety and the Division of Customs on the reinforcement side.

A drug task force, which

might require funding, is also being eyed.

Igisomar particularly noted that a “drug court” has already been endorsed and is only awaiting the necessary funding for it to be established.

He said the campaign will work in such a way that the drug court will collaborate with the rehabilitation center to prevent users from going back to using drugs.

The CNMI does not have

a rehabilitation center, and in most cases, a drug user often pays the fine and walks out.

Rep. Edwin Propst (Ind-Saipan) has filed several bills proposing heavier penalties for peddlers of “ice” and even freezing convicted peddlers’ assets.

Propst said he fully supports the creation of the drug court. “In the war against ‘ice,’ it is good to note that lawmakers are united,” he said. *(Joel D. Pinaroc)*

HAGATNA, Guam—Coastal Riverine Group 1 Detachment Guam was recognized for its community service during a Presidential Volunteer Service Award Presentation Ceremony at the Ricardo J. Bordallo Governor’s Complex in Hagatna on May 7.

CRG-1 Det. Guam is the only Navy command to be awarded the Presidential Volunteer Service Award gold level by completing more than 2,000 hours of community service from

Guam sailors get President’s Volunteer Service Award

March 2014 to March 2015.

Command sailors participated in various community service activities such as beach cleanups, building homes for Habitat for Humanity, painting village bus stops, and teaching children to play various sports.

Cmdr. Robert Smith, officer-in-charge, CRG-1 Det. Guam, said he was proud of the sailors under his command.

“It helps them profession-

ally because it teaches them skill sets they wouldn’t necessarily have gotten this early in their command,” he said. “By the same token it also gets out there and shows the community that we are here to help, we want to help and that this is our home too.”

Guam Lt. Gov. Ray Tenorio presented Smith and six sailors the award.

“No matter what the medal

or the award, it is the sentiment behind it that really matters,” Tenorio said. “We thank you for your dedication and your contributions you make for our island. But more than anything else we thank you for being great Americans.”

Each sailor received a medal for completing hundreds of hours of service.

Master-at-Arms 2nd Class (EXW) Christina Deleon was

awarded the silver medal for volunteering more than 175 hours of community service.

“I think it’s a great thing for us being in a military organization to get involved with our new community,” she said. “I just love helping people and it feels great to do something for the community.”

Deleon said she did not expect to get recognition for volunteering, but said she loves to

volunteer to raise cancer awareness because her sister is a cancer survivor.

The six sailors who were awarded medals are Master-at-Arms 1st Class (EXW) Jennifer Andrews, Master-at-Arms 2nd Class Alexis High, Master-at-Arms 2nd Class (EXW/SW) Jose Velasquez, Master-at-Arms 2nd Class (EXW) Emmanuel Ubiera, Master-at-Arms 3rd Class Emilee Enos and Deleon. *(Joint Region Marianas Public Affairs Office)*



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Guam Lt. Gov. Ray Tenorio presents the President’s Volunteer Service Award to Cmdr. Robert Smith, officer-in-charge, Coastal Riverine Group 1 Det. Guam during a ceremony at the Ricardo J. Bordallo Governor’s Complex in Hagatna, Guam.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Guam Lt. Gov. Ray Tenorio congratulates Master-at-Arms 1st Class (EXW) Jennifer Andrews, Coastal Riverine Group (CRG) 1 Det. Guam, upon receiving the President’s Volunteer Service Award.



Coastal Riverine Group 1 Det. Guam and Guam Lt. Gov. Ray Tenorio pose for photo during an award ceremony at the Ricardo J. Bordallo Governor’s Complex in Hagatna on May 7.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

'Dynasty' could face civil penalties, loss of casino license'

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI's only operating casino could face civil penalties and the loss of its driving revenue—the casino—with the cancellation or suspension of its casino license if it continues to refuse to submit required documents to the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission.

Lucia Blanco-Maratita, executive director for the commission, said that Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino needs to submit audits every year—something they haven't done since 2007.

Section 28 of the Tinian Gaming Act enumerates the grounds for cancellation or suspension of a casino license. These include violating the Act, being convicted of an offense, failing to comply with any terms or conditions of the agreement, refusing or failing to comply with any direction given in writing by the commission's executive director, failure to supply information required under the Act, and/or failure to discharge financial commitments, becoming bankrupt, or taking advantage of the laws force.

Blanco-Maratita said that Tinian Dynasty's owner, Hong Kong Entertainment (Over-

seas) Investments Ltd., and majority shareholder, Mega Stars Overseas Ltd., are responsible for the casino hotel's fate.

"Their new owners have to submit to suitability investigations; they have not because they refuse to submit remaining requested documentations, which have a bearing on their suitability," Blanco-Maratita said. "We cannot complete their license application process."

Under Section 17 of the Tinian Gaming Act, the suitability of a casino licensee and other persons must be investigated to see if they are suitable persons to be associated or connected with the management and operations of a hotel-casino complex or casino.

"The Gaming Act requires anyone who wants to operate or invest in a casino to be licensed, to be investigated to determine whether that person is suitable in terms of his honesty, integrity, financial stability, sound and stable background information—meaning no ties to undesirables," Blanco-Maratita said.

"While Mega Stars submitted its application and an initial investigative fee deposit, they have not submitted all the necessary information being requested, refusing to pay

required fees when required to do so, and just plain refusal to cooperate," she added.

When Mega Stars first came to Tinian in July 2013, TCGCC told them that they had to apply to be found suitable before investing. Maratita said that since then, Mega Stars has been resisting the gaming commission.

Mega Stars also applied for

the exclusive casino license on Saipan, eventually losing the bid to Best Sunshine International, Ltd.

"They are refusing to cooperate with the commission, allows unlicensed persons to work, refusing to supply information that have been requested, to pay required fees. It seems there's a culture of

non-compliance and non-cooperation with regulatory authorities," Maratita said.

She said they could face charges that includes penalties for violation of the Act up to \$20,000 and from \$1,000 up to \$50,000 for other violations.

"Any entity that wants to enter into the gaming industry must comply with the Tinian

Gaming Act, there is no other choice. It is not enough for a business to get a CNMI business license to be able to provide services to the casino or operate a casino or work in the complex. They must also apply to the commission to be found suitable. Suitability is the cornerstone of anyone desiring to do business in the casino industry."

Bautista is Guam's Congressional Art Competition winner

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-GU) announced Thursday last week that Roybert Bautista, a senior at Simon Sanchez, won the 2015 Congressional Art Competition.

Roybert's artwork, titled, "All in One Guam," was selected as the top entry by a panel of local artists. His art piece will be displayed for one year in the U.S. Capitol Complex. He will also attend a reception on June 24, 2015,

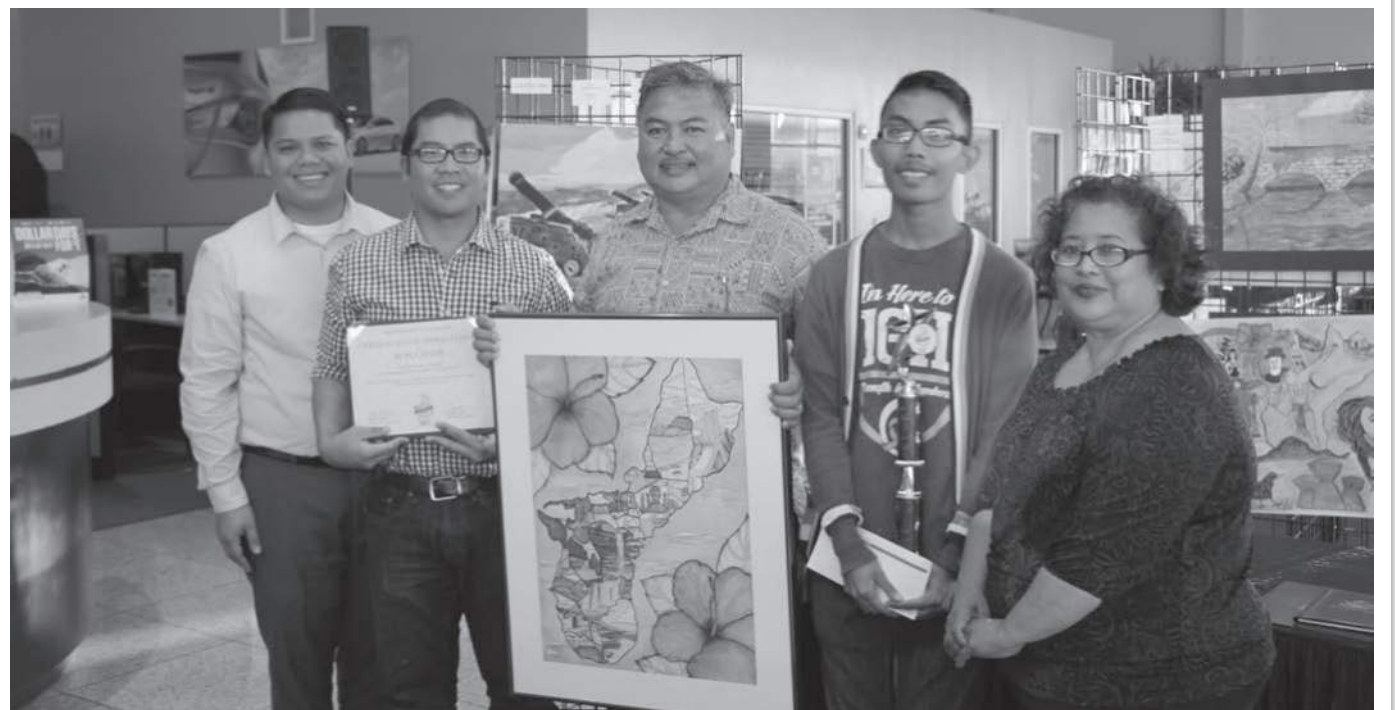
at the Capitol Visitor Center Auditorium and Atrium in Washington, D.C., courtesy of United Airlines.

The Congressional Art Competition is a nationwide high school art competition sponsored by the Members of the U.S. House of Representatives. This year's competition was open to all Guam high schools and featured 30 entries by students from Father Duenas Memorial School, George Washington High

School, John F. Kennedy High School, St. John's School, St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic High School, Okkodo High School, Southern High School, and Simon Sanchez High School.

"I congratulate Roybert, his parents and his art instructor, Ron Canos on the selection of his artwork. I commend our island's high school students and art instructors for their participation in this year's Congressional Art Competi-

tion. I look forward to hosting him in Washington, D.C. and wish him the best of luck in the national competition," said Bordallo. "Roybert's artwork entitled 'All in One Guam' is a beautiful and thoughtful piece that showcases many historical landmarks throughout Guam. The artwork truly showcases the uniqueness of the island's villages and I am proud to have it displayed in the U.S. Capitol Complex." (Office of the Delegate)



Roybert Bautista, winner of the 2015 Congressional Art Competition for Guam, is pictured with Jon Junior Calvo, District Director; Ron Canos, Simon Sanchez High School art instructor; Joseph Quinata, Guam Preservation Trust Chief Program Officer; and Jackie Balbas, Guam Council on the Arts and Humanities Agency, at the Hyundai Showroom Cars Plus, Maite, Guam, on Wednesday, May 13, 2015.

Bordallo backs new draft NEPA guidelines

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-GU) discussed yesterday the importance of the National Environmental Policy Act process during a hearing of the House Committee on Natural Resources. The Council on Environmental Quality has proposed new draft guidance for federal agencies and department to consider the impact of greenhouse gases and climate change during the NEPA process.

Bordallo spoke in favor of the new draft guidelines and discussed the importance of the NEPA process for federal actions. She highlighted the role the NEPA process played to ensure that our community's concerns were considered and addressed in the original EIS for the relocation of Marines from Okinawa to Guam back in 2010.

"Pacific islands face very real threats of rising sea levels, ocean acidification, intensifying storm seasons, and invasive species as a result of climate change," said Bordallo. "While the NEPA process is not perfect, it has been an important tool for many of our communities to weigh in and voice concerns about federal agencies' actions that could have impacts on our environment. I appreciate that the administration is drafting guidance for considering the impacts of greenhouse gases

and climate change within the NEPA process, and I think that it is wise to encourage federal agencies and departments to consider the potential impacts of climate change. It doesn't make sense to build a pier that doesn't take rising sea levels into consideration as it would undermine that important investment."

"In Guam, the NEPA process allowed local stakeholders to voice their concerns about the impact of the relocation of Marines from Okinawa to Guam. Because of the NEPA process, the people of Guam were able to influence agency decisions regarding the relocation of Marines from Okinawa to Guam. The Department of Defense heard the concerns about the amount of additional land needed and worked diligently to find a new location, on DoD property, for the live-fire training range. I appreciate and support the efforts of the administration to further improve and refine the NEPA process with this draft guidance on greenhouse gases and climate change. The NEPA process is critical to ensuring that the concerns of local communities are heard and incorporated into federal agency decision making processes as it was on Guam." (Office of the Delegate)

EGSR to host 7th Annual Employer Gala Awards on May 23

BARRIGADA, Guam—Fifty Guam employers will be honored for their outstanding support of employees in the Guard and Reserve in the 7th Annual Employer Awards Gala hosted yearly by the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Guam-CNMI Committee.

This year's black-tie event will be held on Saturday, May 23, 2015, at the Sheraton Laguna Guam Resort and Spa in Tamuning. Keynoting this annual gathering is ESGR national chair, retired Maj. Gen. Paul E. Mock.

Appointed to office in 2013, Mock's distinguished military career spans a total of 36 years in the U.S. Army Reserve highlighted by his role as the Commanding General of the 377th Theater Support Command in Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, overseeing more than 28,000 soldiers,

civilians and contractors in Kuwait, Iraq, Afghanistan, Qatar, Bahrain and the Horn of Africa. In addition, Mock is also retired from the Los Angeles Police Department after 25 years of service.

"We are privileged that our National Chair Mr. Mock is able to take part in this annual event. Most specially, the honor is on us to acknowledge and recognize our Guam employers who continue to support our Guard and Reserve members by providing them with employment opportunities," said Guam-CNMI ESGR state chair David Sablan, Jr.

Various awards will be given that evening to recognize distinguished local employers. The Pro Patria Award being the highest distinction at the



Mock

state and territorial level will be awarded to the most deserving employer organizations nominated by a Guardsman or Reservist employee for support provided directly to the service member and their families. In 2014, the Judiciary of Guam made it as a nominee of the Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award, which is the highest recognition by the U.S. government to employers for their outstanding support of employees serving in the Guard and Reserve.

About ESGR

ESGR seeks to foster a culture in which all employers support and value the employment and

military service of members of the National Guard and Reserve in the United States. ESGR facilitates and promotes a cooperative culture of employer support for National Guard and Reserve service by developing and advocating mutually beneficial initiatives, recognizing outstanding employer support, increasing awareness of applicable laws and policies, resolving potential conflicts between employers and their service members, and acting as the employers' principal advocate within DoD.

For more information about ESGR outreach programs or volunteer opportunities, call 1-671-735-0456, visit the ESGR website at www.ESGR.mil or visit us on Facebook at ESGR Guam-CNMI. (ESGR)

» 50 local employers to be honored in this yearly fete

Guam, military law enforcement showcase capabilities

BARRIGADA, Guam—Law enforcement personnel from Guam's military, federal, local and private agencies gathered to celebrate Police Week during a static display and demonstration in Barrigada on May 13.

The event, hosted by the Guam Police Department, demonstrated how each agency contributes to the overall protection and safety of the island community to local and military students.

"The reason we want to focus on our children is based on our theme that we want to set the foundation for today's youth, tomorrow's leaders," said event coordinator Sgt. Cecil Sulla, GPD. "We wanted to invite all law enforcement entities here [in] Guam to come and showcase and interact with the children and show them what the possibility of law enforcement is so maybe one day it could influence them."

Coastal Riverine Group 1 Det. Guam, Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit 5, and U.S. Naval Base Guam and Andersen Air Force Base security forces participated in the event and showcased their capabilities to the public.

Master-at-Arms 1st Class (SW) Isaiah Douglas, NBG Security, said he was happy to take part in the event because it gave island school children a firsthand look at military law enforcement.

"We've been working with GPD for the last two years with these types of events so we can build a bond, so if something happens we can lean on them [and] if something happens our way, they can lean on us," he said. "It's to build camaraderie."

CRG-1 sailors interacted with students and explained various weapons they use when carrying out missions.

Master-at-Arms 2nd Class (EXW) Ashley Ferrell, CRG-1 Det. Guam, said her command attended the event to foster the bond between the local and military communities.

"We just want to show Guam that we're here and that we love this place," she said. "We wanted to show that we care for [the island]."



Schoolchildren watch as Andersen Air Force Base Security Forces demonstrate military working dog capabilities during a Police Week demonstration in Barrigada May 13.



Guam Police Department officers display the colors during a Police Week demonstration in Barrigada on May 13. The event, hosted by GPD, brought local, military, federal, and private law enforcement agencies together.

In 1962, President John F. Kennedy signed a proclamation designating May 15 as Peace Officers Memorial Day.

The week in which that date falls is known as Police Week and is celebrated annually throughout the United States to

honor those who sacrifice for the protection of our nation's citizens. (*Joint Region Marianas Public Affairs Office*)

SBA ready to assist Chuuk, Yap businesses affected by Maysak

SACRAMENTO, Calif.—Low-interest federal disaster loans are now available to businesses in the Federated States of Micronesia, States of Chuuk and Yap, as a result of President Obama's major disaster declaration, U.S. Small Business Administration Administrator Maria Contreras-Sweet announced.

The declaration covers Chuuk and Yap states as a result of Super Typhoon Maysak that occurred March 29 to April 1, 2015.

Businesses of all sizes and

private nonprofit organizations may borrow up to \$2 million to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory, and other business assets. SBA can also lend additional funds to businesses to help with the cost of improvements to protect, prevent or minimize the same type of disaster damage from occurring in the future.

For small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture, and most private

nonprofit organizations of any size, SBA offers Economic Injury Disaster Loans to help meet working capital needs caused by the disaster. EIDL assistance is available to businesses regardless of any property damage.

SBA disaster loans may also be available to qualified individuals with needs not met by U.S. Agency for International Development.

Interest rates can be as low as 4 percent for businesses, 2.625 percent for private nonprofit organizations and

1.813 percent for individuals with terms up to 30 years. Loan amounts and terms are set by SBA and are based on each applicant's financial condition.

SBA will provide one-on-one assistance to disaster loan applicants on Chuuk from May 18 - 27 and on Yap from May 18 - 29. Additional information and details will be announced by local officials or you may call the SBA Customer Service Center at (800) 659-2955 until 11am local time. (*SBA*)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A student participates in a force protection training exercise with U.S. Naval Base Guam Security Forces during a Police Week demonstration in Barrigada on May 13.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

John Gonzales LIVE schedule

John Gonzales LIVE will replay today and tomorrow, May 18 and 19, the program that aired last Wednesday, "Social and Economic Impacts of Integrated Resorts," from 6:30pm to 7:30pm on TV Channel 14.

This Wednesday, May 20, the program will tackle the subject "Public Safety Awareness and Community Crimes" from 6:30pm to 7:30pm on TV Channel 14. Guests include DPS Commissioner James C. Deleon Guerrero and Customs Director Jose C. Mafnas.

To participate in the discussion contact via email: johngonzaleslive@gmail.com or text 285-META (6382). (*PR*)

Memorial Day proclamation signing today

The Office of the CNMI/Military Veterans Affairs would like to inform the general public, veterans, and families of our fallen heroes that the Memorial Day proclamation signing will be held today, May 18, 2015, at 10am at the Office of the Governor's conference room. Memorial Day will be held at the CNMI Veterans Cemetery in Marpi on Monday, May 25, 2015, at 9am. For more information, call 670-287-5351 or 670-664-2650 or email vicente.camacho@gov.mp. (*PR*)

Ayuda Network moves to new office

The office of Ayuda Network, Inc. and the Commonwealth Respite Service Program has moved to Capital Hill, Building No. 1367 across from the Center for Independent Living on Anatahan Drive. The Ayuda phone line has also been changed from 234-7469 to 322-7469, fax line to 322-7468. (*Ayuda*)

Child car seat checkpoints on Saipan

The Department of Public Safety's Traffic Section will be conducting child car seat checkpoints on Saipan today and on Wednesday. Certified child passenger safety technicians will check car seats for proper installation and advise parents and caregivers how to choose the right car seats and install them properly in their vehicles.

Today, May 18, 2015, the checkpoint is from 7am to 8:15am along Chalan Pale Arnold, Puerto Rico by the U.S. Army Reserve Center on the southbound lane. This will be followed at 9:30am to 10:4am on Beach Road, Garapan, across the Bank of Pacific on the southbound lane.

On Wednesday, May 20, 2015, from 4pm to 5:15pm along Chalan Monsignor Guerrero, Chalan Kiya by CUC Waterloo on the westbound lane. This will be followed at 6:30pm to 7:45pm along Beach Road, Susupe, in front of the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Building on the northbound lane. (*DPS*)

Tinian DPS sets sobriety checkpoints

The Tinian Department of Public Safety's Traffic Section will be conducting DUI/sobriety checkpoints on the dates and time listed below:

■ Monday, May 22, 2015, 11am to 12:15pm, eastbound lane by baseball field; 4pm to 5:15pm, southbound lane by Youth Center

■ Friday, May 25, 2015, 11am to 12:15pm, eastbound lane by baseball field; 4pm to 5:15pm, southbound lane by Youth Center. (*DPS*)

MINA announces the 2015 Green Gala

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance. To help celebrate the organization's birthday and raise funds for its work to preserve and protect the CNMI's environment and biodiversity, MINA will be hosting its annual Green Gala 2015, scheduled for Sept. 4, 2015. Tickets will be available starting June 1, 2015, at the MINA office and from MINA members. Call 233-7333 with any questions, to purchase your tickets, or to learn how you can become an event sponsor. (*MINA*)

Business

America's premier rail superhighway is falling apart

NEW YORK (AP)—The trains that link global centers of learning, finance and power on the East Coast lumber through tunnels dug just after the Civil War, and cross century-old bridges that sometimes jam when they swing open to let tugboats pass. Hundreds of miles of overhead wires that deliver power to locomotives were hung during the Great Depression.

The rails of the Northeast Corridor are decaying, increasingly strained—and moving more people than ever around the nation's most densely populated region.

The railroad's importance became all the more apparent after Amtrak Train 188 derailed Tuesday as it sped around a curve in Philadelphia, killing eight passengers and injuring more than 200.

The wreck closed part of the corridor all week. On a normal weekday, 2,000 trains run by Amtrak and eight other passenger rail systems carry 750,000 riders on railway between Washington and Boston, making it a vital link for both intercity travelers and suburban commuters.

Federal investigators will take months to determine the cause of the crash. Speed, not equipment failure, has emerged as a key factor.

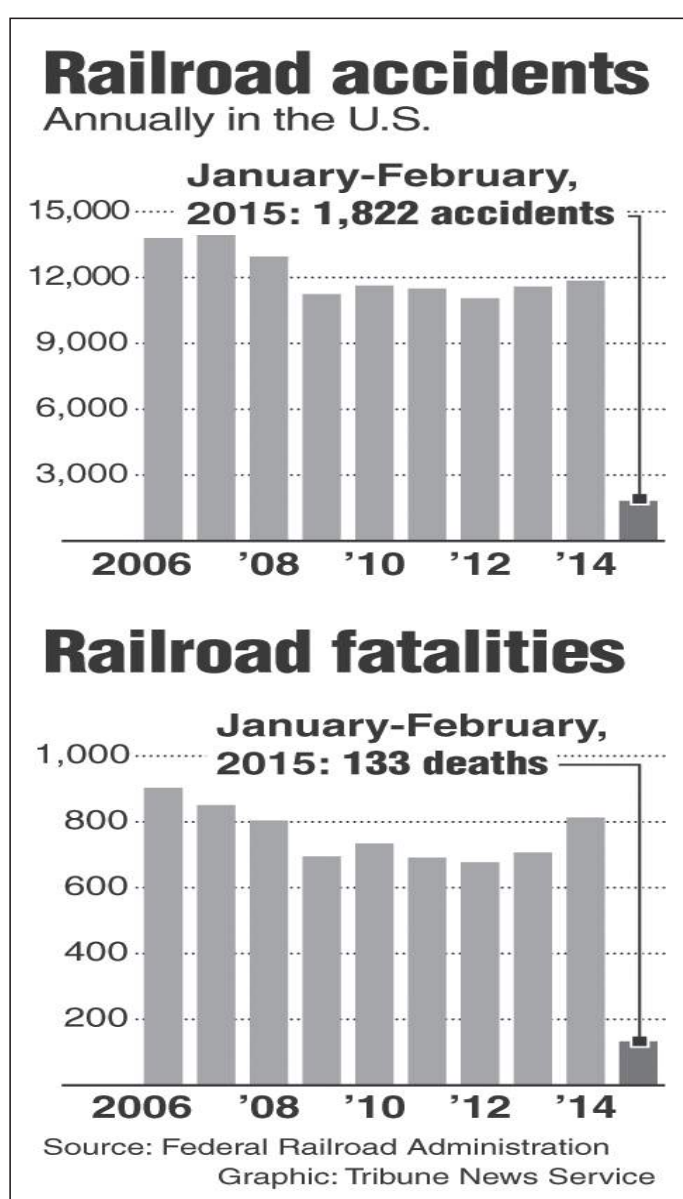
Still, the crash refocused attention on the slow-motion deterioration of vital infrastructure with a seemingly endless to-do list. By one estimate, it would take \$21 billion just to replace parts still in use beyond their intended lives.

"The stakes are enormous," Amtrak's president, Joseph Boardman, warned in his 2015 request to Congress for funding. He said the corridor was experiencing a "crisis brought on by decades of chronic underfunding."

Some federal lawmakers want to give Amtrak less, not more. A day after the accident, the House Appropriations Committee voted to cut Amtrak's federal subsidy for next year by \$251 million, to \$1.1 billion.

"There just isn't enough money to go around," said Rebecca Reyes-Alicea of the Federal Railroad Administration. In her job as the agency's Northeast Corridor program manager, Reyes-Alicea has been helping states pool their clout and push for federal money all along the corridor, rather than competing with one another.

Amtrak's ridership on the corridor is up 50 percent since 1998, thanks mostly to the introduction of high-speed trains now favored by travelers who used to fly between New York, Washington and Boston. Am-



trak carried a record 11.6 million riders on the corridor in fiscal year 2014.

Commuter railroads that rely heavily on the rail corridor, like the Metro-North Railroad serving New York and Connecticut, also have been breaking rider-ship records.

Reyes-Alicea ticks off a list of needs, from a bigger station in Boston at the northern terminus to obsolete bridges along many of the 450 miles that end next to Capitol Hill.

Half of the route's 1,000 bridges are around a century old. Not all are at the end of their useful lives, but at current funding levels, it would take 300 years to replace all of them, according to the Northeast Corridor Commission of transportation officials.

A 105-year-old bridge over New Jersey's Hackensack River, the Portal Bridge, wouldn't close for 45 minutes in February after it opened for a tugboat. Plans call for a pair of replacement bridges. The first one will cost \$940 million.

There are 10 such "historic moveable bridges" along the corridor.

In Connecticut, officials are working on a plan to replace a swinging bridge over the Norwalk River. It was built in 1896.

"As a piece of engineering, it's just amazing," said John Bernick, assistant rail administrator for the Connecticut

Department of Transportation. "But, it's certainly reached its retirement age."

Last year, after some needed equipment changes, the bridge got jammed, twice, at rush hour while trying to close. The computer that operates the bridge is from the 1980s.

Replacing the bridge, he said, could cost \$650 million.

Connecticut has three other bridges built in 1904 and 1905 that the state would like to replace soon, Bernick said.

"They are all turn-of-the-century vintage structures that require a lot of maintenance to keep going, and the challenge is to say you need to replace them all at once," Bernick said. "You're talking about billions of dollars. And can you operationally pull that off with an operating railroad?"

In Baltimore, trains pass through a 1.4-mile tunnel built in 1873—one so narrow, decrepit and leak-prone that speeds are limited to 30 mph.

With such chokepoints, the journey between Boston and Washington takes at least seven hours. Trains connecting major cities in France can cover a longer distance in less than half the time.

In its five-year financial plan, released in February, Amtrak warned that its passenger cars also were older than at any previous point in its history.

Nation

Amtrak told to expand speed control at crash site

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Federal officials announced Saturday that Amtrak must immediately expand its use of a speed restriction system on Philadelphia's northbound rails where a speeding train reached 106 mph, flew off the tracks and crashed, killing eight people.

The Federal Railroad Administration said an emergency order would be issued in coming days that calls for Amtrak to ensure the presence of the automatic train control system that notifies an engineer when a train is above the speed limit and automatically applies the brakes if the engineer doesn't act to slow the train down.

The system is already being used for southbound trains approaching the curve where Tuesday's derailment occurred.

Amtrak said it would abide by the federal directive and others announced Saturday,

adding that Amtrak's "overarching goal is to provide safe and secure rail passenger travel."

The train was traveling from Washington, D.C., to New York when it flew off the tracks at Philadelphia. About 200 people were injured, and at least eight people remained in critical condition in Philadelphia hospitals Saturday. All were expected to survive.

Investigators have been looking into why the train hit the speed of about 106 mph in a 50 mph zone. The FBI also is looking into the possibility that the windshield of the train was hit by an object shortly before the train derailed. The engineer, who was injured in the crash, told authorities he did not recall anything in the few minutes before it happened.

The Federal Railroad Administration also ordered Amtrak to analyze curves to assess risks on the Northeast

Corridor, the busy stretch of tracks between Washington and Boston, and determine if more can be done to improve safety.

"In areas where approach speed is significantly higher than curve speed, the appropriate technology intended to prevent over-speed derailments must be implemented immediately," the agency said.

Amtrak also will have to increase the amount and frequency of signage alerting engineers and conductors of the maximum authorized speed.

After the crash, Amtrak president Joseph Boardman vowed to have the next-generation positive train control system in operation along the railroad by the end of the year, as Congress mandated in 2008. The system uses transponders, wireless radio and computers to prevent trains from going over the speed limit.

Tornadoes hit US midsection, damaging homes, power lines

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)—Strong storms, including some tornadoes, were churning across the nation's midsection Saturday. Authorities in Oklahoma said there were reports of damage to homes and businesses and significant damage to power lines.

Rain and winds were also moving across parts of Texas, Kansas, Nebraska and Minnesota, where there were some reports of tornadoes.

Tornadoes touched down Saturday in southwestern Oklahoma near the towns of Elmer and near Tipton, said National Weather Service forecaster Daryl Williams. He said another touched down briefly near Elk City along Interstate 40, and there were several other possible tornadoes. Warnings were issued in several

other areas.

Department of Emergency Management spokeswoman Keli Cain said damage was reported in western Oklahoma.

"This is just still very, very preliminary, but we're hearing a lot of damage to power lines, outbuildings. We've also heard reports of damage to homes and businesses, primarily in Major County and Roger Mills County," Cain said.

"Right now we haven't had any reports of injuries or fatalities, and we hope it will stay that way," Cain said.

Cain said the Oklahoma Corporation Commission reported just more than 3,000 power outages statewide.

Williams said the tornadoes in southwestern Oklahoma were very strong, but were in largely isolated areas.

Emergency Management Director Lloyd Colston in Altus said there were damaged structures in the area.

U.S. Highway 283 at Elmer was closed because of a downed power line and the town was without power, the Oklahoma Highway Patrol reported. Public Service Company of Oklahoma reported a total of about 1,800 power outages in the region.

Jared Guyer, a forecaster with the weather service's Storm Prediction Center, said the threat of tornadoes was expected to diminish late Saturday, but the storms with rain and hail could continue into Sunday.

Last weekend's weather caused several tornadoes, flooding and at least four deaths.

After death sentence, what's next for Boston Marathon bomber

BOSTON (AP)—Boston Marathon bomber Dzhokhar Tsarnaev was sentenced to death by lethal injection, but he won't be executed for years—maybe decades—as the appeals process runs its course. The next step is a formal imposition of the sentence. Then, the U.S. Bureau of Prisons will decide where he'll be housed.

SENTENCING HEARING

Judge George O'Toole Jr. will schedule a sentencing hearing to formally impose the sentence. Survivors of the bombing will be given a chance to give victim impact statements. Tsarnaev also will be allowed to speak if he chooses. It's unclear how many victims the judge will

allow to make statements.

PRISON ASSIGNMENT

The U.S. Bureau of Prisons could send Tsarnaev to the federal penitentiary in Terre Haute, Indiana, which has a special unit for death row inmates and is where Oklahoma City bomber Timothy McVeigh was executed. If he had been sentenced to life, he would likely have been sent to the U.S. Penitentiary Administrative Maximum Facility in Florence, Colorado. The Supermax prison is the highest-security prison in the country and houses some of the country's most notorious criminals, including Unabomber Ted Kaczynski, Atlanta Olympics bomber Eric Rudolph and 9/11 conspirator

Zacarias Moussaoui.

APPEAL PROCESS

Tsarnaev could spend years appealing his death sentence. Seventy-four people have been sentenced to death since the federal death penalty was reinstated in 1988, but only three have been executed. Tsarnaev's lawyers fought unsuccessfully to move his trial out of Massachusetts, where they argued there was too much of an emotional impact to find truly impartial jurors. The change-of-venue issue may be one of the grounds for appeal. The federal government has had a moratorium on executions since 2010 due to a review of the protocol used by the U.S. Bureau of Prisons.

Asia

Neither China nor US giving ground over projects dispute

BEIJING (AP)—China and the United States are budging not a bit over Beijing's assertive development in disputed parts of the South China Sea, with Chinese officials politely but pointedly dismissing Washington's push for U.S.-proposed ways to ease tensions.

As U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry wrapped up a visit to China on Sunday, both sides stressed the importance of dialogue to resolve competing claims in the waterway. But neither showed any sign of giving ground over Chinese land reclamation projects that have alarmed the United States and China's smaller neighbors.

Kerry met Sunday with Chinese President Xi Jinping, who will be making an official visit to the United States this fall and sought to highlight U.S.-China cooperation.

"In my view, U.S.-China re-

lations have remained stable overall," Xi told Kerry at Beijing's Great Hall of the People, adding that he "look(ed) forward to continue to grow this relationship" on his upcoming visit.

Despite those words, which came shortly before Kerry left Beijing for Seoul, South Korea, friction over China's construction in the South China Sea was evident and clouded the start of Kerry's brief trip to Asia.

The U.S. and most members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations want a halt to the projects, which they suspect are aimed at building islands and other land features over which China can claim sovereignty.

"We are concerned about the pace and scope of China's land reclamation in the South China Sea," Kerry said Saturday. He urged China to speed up talks

with ASEAN on guidelines for handling maritime activity in disputed areas.

The goal is to help "reduce tensions and increase the prospect of diplomatic solutions," Kerry said.

"I think we agree that the region needs smart diplomacy in order to conclude the ASEAN-China code of conduct and not outposts and military strips," Kerry told reporters at a news conference with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi.

Wang indicated that while China was prepared to talk, it would not back down on the construction that, he said, "is something that falls fully within the scope of China's sovereignty."

"The determination of the Chinese side to safeguard our own sovereignty and territorial integrity is as firm as a rock, and it is unshakable," he said.

sea by some countries."

The migrants seem intent on reaching Malaysia, a Muslim-majority country that has hosted more than 45,000 Rohingya over the years but now says it can't accept any more. Indonesia and Thailand have voiced similar stances.

Thailand has organized a May 29 meeting with officials from 15 countries to discuss the "root causes" of "irregular migration in the Indian Ocean."

Zaw Htay said Friday that Myanmar's government "will not attend a regional meeting hosted by Thailand if 'Rohingya' is mentioned on the invitation." He accused governments of trying to divert their human smuggling and slavery problems by dumping the blame on Myanmar.

called "help-on" policy of giving the boats food and water—and pointing them to other countries.

The migrants are Rohingya Muslims fleeing persecution in predominantly-Buddhist Myanmar, and Bangladeshis looking for a better life abroad.

"We are not ignoring the migrant problem, but our leaders will decide whether to attend the meeting based on what is going to be discussed," said Maj. Zaw Htay, director of the office of Myanmar's president. "We will not accept the allegations by some that Myanmar is the source of the problem."

He directed some of the blame on Myanmar's neighbors, saying that from a humanitarian point of view, "it's sad that these people are being pushed out to

identify the bodies found. He described the crash as "severe," and said the recovery team at the site encountered extreme weather and difficult terrain. The wreckage was located about 24 kilometers (15 miles) from the town of Charikot, near where the aircraft went missing while delivering humanitarian aid to villages hit by two deadly earthquakes.

PH factory where 72 died suspected of breaking law

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—A factory where a fire killed 72 people violated employment laws, the Philippines' top labor official said Friday, as more witness reports emerged about the victims being trapped behind iron grill bars shouting for help. The workers who died Wednesday fled to the second floor of the two-story rubber slipper fac-

tory but iron grills on windows prevented their escape, according to a relative and witnesses. A congressman said Friday that the building lacked fire sprinklers. Workers at a nearby factory told ABS-CBN television that people watched helplessly as many of the victims were begging for help from the windows as flames and black smoke engulfed the building. At least 104 workers at the Kentex Manufacturing Corp. were recruited by an illegal sub-contractor, Labor Secretary Rosalinda Baldoz said. She said owners will be summoned to answer the charges next week. Officials couldn't say how many workers were at the factory in Valenzuela city, a northern Manila suburb, because records were lost. It was one of the worst fires in the country after the 1996 disco blaze that killed 162 people. Another fire at a budget hotel in 2001 killed 75.

World

US says IS head of oil operations killed in US raid in Syria

BEIRUT (AP)—In a rare ground attack deep into Syria, U.S. Army commandos killed a man described as the Islamic State's head of oil operations, captured his wife and rescued a woman whom American officials said was enslaved.

A team of Delta Force commandos slipped across the border from Iraq under cover of darkness Saturday aboard Black Hawk helicopters and V-22 Osprey aircraft, according to a U.S. defense official knowledgeable about details of the raid. The official was not authorized to discuss the operation publicly and spoke on condition of anonymity.

The Americans intended to capture a militant identified by U.S. officials as Abu Sayyaf. When they arrived at his location, a multi-story building, they met stiff resistance, the U.S. official said, and a firefight ensued, resulting in bullet-hole damage to the U.S. aircraft.

Abu Sayyaf was killed, along with an estimated dozen

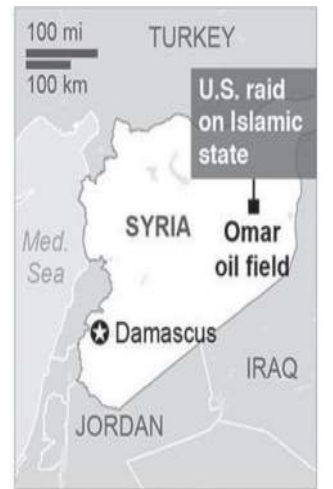
IS fighters, U.S. officials said. No American was killed or wounded.

Before the sun had risen, the commandos flew back to Iraq where Abu Sayyaf's wife, Umm Sayyaf, was being questioned in U.S. custody, officials said. The goal was to gain intelligence about IS operations and any information about hostages, including American citizens, who were held by the group, according to Bernadette Meehan, spokeswoman for the U.S. National Security Council.

Abu Sayyaf was described by one official as the IS "emir of oil and gas," although he also was targeted for his known association with the group's leader, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi.

U.S. officials said it was likely, given Abu Sayyaf's position, that he knew about more than just the financial side of the group's operations.

Despite the U.S. claims, much about the IS figure was



in question. The name Abu Sayyaf has rarely been mentioned in Western reports about the extremist group and he is not known to be among terrorists for whom the U.S. has offered a bounty. The name was not known to counterterrorism officials who study IS and does not appear in reports compiled by think tanks and others examining the group's hierarchy.

Ousted Egyptian President Mohammed Morsi sentenced to death

CAIRO (AP)—An Egyptian court on Saturday sentenced the country's first freely elected leader, ousted Islamist President Mohammed Morsi, to death over a mass prison break during the 2011 uprising that eventually brought him to power.

The ruling applies to another 120 people, and is the latest in a series of mass death sentences handed down since the military overthrew Morsi nearly two years ago. The sentence will likely further polarize Egypt, a longtime U.S. ally grappling with an Islamist insurgency that has intensified since Morsi's overthrow.

In what appears to be the first violent response to the ruling, suspected Islamic militants gunned down three judges and their driver in the

northern Sinai Peninsula city of al-Arish, according to security officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak to the media.

Egypt's judiciary has come under mounting international criticism since Morsi's ouster as it has handed down harsh mass sentences to Islamists and jailed secular activists for protesting. At the same time, the courts have acquitted or handed light sentences to top officials who served under President Hosni Mubarak, whose nearly 30-year reign was ended by the 2011 Arab Spring-inspired uprising.

"These sentences are yet another manifestation of the deeply troubling way the Egyptian judiciary has been

used as a tool to settle political disagreements," Emad Shahin, a professor at the American University in Cairo who was sentenced to death in absentia wrote in a Facebook post.

"Due process, regard for evidence, and minimum standards of justice have been tossed aside in favor of draconian injustice," wrote Shahin, now a visiting professor at the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University.

As is customary in capital punishment cases, Judge Shaaban el-Shami referred his death sentences on Morsi and the others to the nation's top Muslim cleric for his non-binding opinion. El-Shami set June 2 for the next hearing, and the sentences can be appealed.

IS group enters Syrian town of Palmyra, nears ancient ruins

BEIRUT (AP)—Islamic State fighters have pushed into the Syrian town of Palmyra, home to famed 2,000-year-old ruins, and are clashing with government troops in residential areas.

The militants entered from the north and have not reached the UNESCO world heritage site, which is southwest of Palmyra.

IS push on the town in the central Homs province, which began on Thursday, has raised alarm in Syria and abroad. The group is notorious for destroying archaeological sites in neighboring Iraq.

Palmyra is one of the most famous world heritage sites in the

Middle East, and before the civil war thousands of tourists came to see its Roman-era colonnades. The U.N. cultural agency chief Irina Bokova expressed alarm Friday over the clashes.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights and activist Bebares al-Talawy said the militants were clashing with government troops in the northern part of the town on Saturday. The Observatory said the IS fighters have seized control of parts of the town.

Al-Talawy, who is near Palmyra, said the group took control of a government building and the water company. He said government forces still control the airport in the

town's northeast.

A video circulated on social media shows a man raising a black IS flag on a building allegedly in northern Palmyra. The video appeared authentic and was consistent with AP reporting.

In recent days the extremists have seized a gas field northeast of Palmyra as well as nearby villages, driving many of the residents out. Government aircraft have bombed militant positions on the town's outskirts.

Syrian officials said in a statement carried by the state news agency that troops repelled a militant advance from the south.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Bodies of Marines, Nepalese recovered from crashed chopper

KATHMANDU, Nepal (AP)—The bodies of six Marines and two Nepalese soldiers who were aboard a U.S. Marine helicopter that crashed during a relief mission in earthquake-hit Nepal have been recovered, Nepal's army said. The wreckage of the UH-1 "Huey" was found Friday following days of intense searching in the mountains northeast of capital Kathmandu. The first three charred bodies were retrieved the same day by Nepalese and U.S. military teams, and the rest on Saturday, the Nepalese army said in a statement. The aircraft went missing while delivering aid on Tuesday. Lt. Gen. John Wissler, commander of the Marine-led joint task force, said in Kathmandu on Friday that his team could not immediately determine the cause of the crash or

Health & Fitness

Smokers have better luck quitting when own money wagered

NEW YORK (AP)—When it comes to offering cash to get smokers to quit, more people go for the carrots than the stick—but the stick gets better results.

In a study released Wednesday, smokers with \$150 of their own money at stake were far more likely to quit than smokers who didn't have to wager their money to get the cash rewards.

"A bit of a stick was much better than pure carrot," said the study's lead author, Dr. Scott Halpern of the University of Pennsylvania.

But here's the catch: Few people were willing to bet on themselves. Nearly everyone who was offered the rewards-only option, though, signed up for a stop smoking program.

As employers try to hold down health care costs, growing numbers of them have been using financial incentives to encourage workers to quit smoking or get healthier in other ways. But there's been relatively little research on what works best, said senior author Dr. Kevin Volpp.

The Penn researchers collaborated with CVS Health, the second largest U.S. drug-store operator, for the study. About 2,500 smokers took part—CVS employees, their

relatives or friends.

THE INCENTIVES

Past research has found money is persuasive. Volpp and his colleagues tried to see what difference it made if employees stood not only to win money for quitting, but also to lose money.

About 1,000 smokers were offered the chance to win up to \$800 if they could quit for six months. Participation was high—about 90 percent signed up.

Another 1,000 were asked to put \$150 down as a deposit. If they quit for six months, they would get their \$150 back plus \$650—a total of \$800. Only 14 percent took that offer.

Another group of about 500 were offered no cash incentive, but did get the company's standard offering of counseling and nicotine replacement therapy.

THE OUTCOME

The few that put in their own money were a committed bunch. About half of them made it six months without a cigarette. That was a much better than the 17 percent of the rewards-only group that made it to the finish line.

But there were so many people in the rewards-only program



In this Tuesday, June 3, 2008 file photo, an employee smokes a cigarette at a bar and restaurant in Harrisburg, Pa. In a study released Wednesday, May 13, 2015, smokers with \$150 of their own money at stake were far more likely to quit than smokers who didn't have to wager their money to get cash rewards.

that the actual number who quit in that group was much higher—156, compared to 78.

Only 28 of the people offered

no cash incentives To get the largest number of people to stop, "it looks

like the better bet might be for employers to supply pure reward," said Cliff Douglas, the American Cancer Society's vice president for tobacco control. He was not involved in the research.

The study was published in Thursday's New England Journal of Medicine.

TOO-HIGH STAKES

The study's authors say there's a compelling story in the success rate for the smokers who had money on the line. But they also say the \$150 deposit apparently scared many away.

One participant, Camelia Escarcego of Rialto, California, said she is unemployed and wouldn't have been able to come up with the deposit. Her sister works for CVS and Escarcego ended up in the rewards-only group.

A 12-year smoker, Escarcego, 55, said the hundreds of dollars was enough motivation.

"That helped me to have a little bit of money in my pocket," she said.

Next month, CVS is to launch a quit smoking program for its 200,000 employees that will require a lower deposit of \$50 and will award \$700 to those who quit for a year.

Cardiologists, veterinarian work together to fix cat's heart

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP)—A California cat named Vanilla Bean with a congenital heart defect got a rare chance at another life.

A team of doctors who usually treat humans came together with a veterinarian to operate on the 1-year-old Burmese cat. Blood was pooling in Vanilla Bean's heart, causing a chamber to grow larger. The defect is also found in children.

Untreated, it would lead to congestive heart failure.

A technique to correct the problem in a cat had reportedly been done only once before,

by University of California, Davis veterinarian Josh Stern -- the same vet who operated on Vanilla Bean, the Sacramento Bee reports (<http://bit.ly/1PKsLYp>).

"I needed a human cardiology team to help guide me on this case," said Stern in a news release from the UC Davis Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital. "It's so uncommon in cats. It's uncommon in children also, but they've certainly seen more cases of this than I have."

Stern teamed up with cardiologists from the UC Davis Medical Center and other vets

to open the cat's chest and place catheters and balloons within Vanilla Bean's heart.

The operation was successful. Vanilla Bean lost a lot of blood, but transfusions were ready from the school's large veterinary blood bank.

The blood loss caused kidney injury, but the cat was able to go home eight days after surgery. After a four-month recuperation, an exam showed that the cat is no longer in congestive heart failure.

Stern said he expects Vanilla Bean to make a complete recovery.

A food poisoning report with good news: Fewer E. coli cases

NEW YORK (AP)—Fewer Americans are getting sick from a nasty germ sometimes found in undercooked hamburgers, the government reported Thursday.

The latest report card on food poisoning shows illnesses from a dangerous form of E. coli bacteria have fallen 20 percent in the last few years.

That E. coli strain got attention in the early 1990s when it was the culprit in a deadly outbreak linked to hamburger meat. Leafy vegetables have also been tied to illnesses; a 2006 outbreak of E. coli was traced to contaminated fresh spinach.

Regulatory scrutiny of the beef industry since then has contributed to the decline, as

has voluntary changes in the produce industry, health officials said.

The report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention counts food poisoning cases in only 10 states, but is believed to be a good indicator of national trends. In those states, total illnesses and deaths have been relatively stable over the last five years.

Over the last four years, illness rates were also flat for these leading causes of food poisoning:

■ **Salmonella**, which continues to be the No. 1 cause of food poisoning. Salmonella accounts for about 38 percent of illnesses—far more than the 6 percent

attributed to E. coli.

■ **Campylobacter**, a bacteria commonly linked to raw milk and poultry, which ranks second.

■ **Listeria**, which continues to be particularly dangerous but also rare. A recent deadly listeria outbreak was linked to ice cream.

The CDC estimates that 1 in 6 Americans get sick from contaminated food each year, though most cases are not reported.

To prevent food poisoning, health officials advise: Carefully wash and clean food, and cook meat, poultry and eggs thoroughly. Avoid raw milk and unpasteurized juices. And promptly refrigerate leftovers.

Personal Trainer

Running on an indoor track

Indoor tracks are good for cardioaerobic exercise in bad weather, but they call for a slightly different technique than outdoor running.

Banked and unbanked turns

Turns are banked (sloped) to give runners better traction and speed

Banked
Ankle twist greater than outdoors
Wear supportive shoes

Unbanked
(gym or hallway)
Severe twist, more risk of ankle, knee injury
Don't change lanes or pass on curves

Curvature of turns

1/10-mile (160 m) track has much tighter turns than a standard 1/4 mile (440 m) outdoor track

Jog around track first to get used to feel of its turns — all tracks are slightly different

Plant feet firmly; be careful not to twist knees on curves

Running surface

Rubber-coated wood; may be more comfortable than outdoor track, but may also be slicker

Watch for spots made slick by runners' sweat

Shoes should give good traction and cushioning to reduce shin splints

No drinking on indoor track

Health clubs often have this rule for safety

Source: Runnint Times, Chicago Tri Club
Graphic: McComas, Trap, Tribune News Service

Life & Style

Nun who kissed Elvis helps answer abbey's prayers

BETHLEHEM, Conn. (AP)—Mother Dolores Hart finds it miraculous that she was able to turn one kiss with Elvis Presley into the spark that helped save an abbey.

The former starlet who walked away from Hollywood in 1963 to become a nun spun her tale into a fundraising campaign for her crumbling monastery in rural Connecticut.

But the pot boiler about Presley's first on-screen kiss and the girl who turned from the screen to sisterhood has done more than keep open the doors of Abbey of Regina Laudis. It has inspired new interest in its monastic work. Now she and the other nuns hope to raise up to \$9 million to restore the order's former brass factory for future generations.

Mother Dolores, now 76, first shared her story with The Associated Press in 2011 as she and about 40 other members of her Benedictine order faced the possibility that their abbey in Bethlehem would close.

Fire officials had found numerous fire code and safety issues in what was a ramshackle collection of factory buildings, barns and sheds that were linked



AP
In this Friday, May 15, 2015 photo, Mother Dolores Hart holds a baby sheep at the Abbey of Regina Laudis, in Bethlehem, Conn.

together in 1947 after the nuns purchased the old industrial site.

Mother Dolores went on to write an autobiography, embark on a speaking tour, and make TV appearances. In 2012, she returned to Hollywood to attend the Academy Awards when a documentary short about her life, "God is the Bigger Elvis,"

was nominated for an Oscar.

"Of course it was only a nomination," she joked. "I'm still waiting for the real thing."

But the bigger reward, she said, came as an answer to her prayers for the abbey.

Shortly after her autobiography was published, the monastery began receiving letters

and donations from across the world. One man began sending \$100 a month. A woman in New Zealand sent \$3,000.

"The Elvis fans didn't have a lot of money, but they sent quite a few dollars and all their love," she said.

The nuns quickly raised more than \$1 million. The abbey's

main building now has new alarm and sprinkler systems, an elevator and other safety improvements.

What was once a project designed to keep the abbey from closing has become a fundraising effort to renovate the abbey for a long future.

The most recent version of the renovation plan, dubbed New Horizons, calls for a new chapel (the ceiling is sagging), housing and other environmentally friendly and disabled accessible spaces to live and pray.

Among other things, the nuns need to install new wiring and insulation to prevent the constant freezing of pipes in the winter, fix the falling gutters, replace rotting wood and get rid of the black mold that can be seen growing on the ceiling of the former barn that now houses the print shop, bakery and sewing room.

More than anything, they need more space—common areas and places where people

can reflect without bumping into one another. They have no conference room and currently no way to walk inside from one end of the monastery to the other without going through the chapel and disturbing those who are praying there.

The nuns estimate the work will cost between \$7.5 million and \$9 million. They have so far raised more than \$3 million.

"That first phase was more of an urgency, a survival thing," said Sister Angele Arbib, who serves as the abbey's spokeswoman. "But this is all needed. We have to continue, because we aren't going to be in a position to do this ever again. We are doing this for the future."

Mother Abbess Lucia Kuppens said it has been hard for the nuns, who were used to living a cloistered life, to reach out to the public and ask for assistance. But with Mother Dolores as an inspiration, they have all found a way to help, each using her unique talents.

They have set up a website, organized fundraisers, begun speaking to the media and increasing sales of their handcrafted pottery, artisan cheeses, and choir recordings.

"We now know we can do it," the mother abbess said. "We've gained courage and confidence."

Mother Dolores' story has attracted more than money, Mother Lucia said. Other professional women have connected with the idea of leaving their hectic lives for the monastery. Some come to the abbey to visit, working in their dairy and learning how to live a more self-sufficient life on the abbey's organic farm.

Judith Pinco, a former singer from Hollywood, read about Mother Dolores and decided to visit the abbey. She ended up joining the church and now serves as Mother Dolores' assistant and liaison to the outside world.

"I thought I was coming here for a contemplative life, but this is my way of giving back," she said.

There has also been a steady stream of young people, many inspired by Mother Dolores' story, showing up and looking for direction. Every room where the novices live is currently filled.

"So there has been more than just donations," Mother Lucia said. "People have really been finding spiritual renewal."

That has put even more strain on the abbey already cramped housing, helping make the planned renovations a necessity, Mother Lucia said.

The changes will make it possible for the abbey to grow and continue its service, she said—like a movie with a happy ending.

"I couldn't ask for a better legacy," said Mother Dolores.

Vienna hosts Europe's biggest AIDS research charity event

VIENNA (AP)—Vienna's central City Hall Square was transformed Saturday into a mythical world of pagan rites and fantastic spectacle as the city hosted its biggest annual party of the year.

The occasion, Europe's biggest charity event, was serious: raising money for AIDS and HIV research. But as in previous years, the 23rd Life Ball was also a free-for all gala with an emphasis on diversity.

This year's theme revolved around the ancient celebration of spring as the giver of life, and organizers pulled out all the stops. The normally somber neo-Gothic City hall was turned into a structure glowing with light, and its square a huge stage of blazing fire, dance, song—and of music ranging from Beethoven and Stravinsky to Trevor Jackson singing "Love Child."

Tens of thousands of spectators pushed against barriers to ogle paying guests in formal dress rubbing shoulders with celebrities, party-goers dressed in little more than body paint and cross-dressers in wild costumes.

Top tickets go for 750 euros (\$850)—a price that entitles holders to an all-night party inside the ornate City Hall chambers, complete with champagne and tantalizing delicacies.



AP
Austrian singer and European Song Contest winner 2014 Conchita Wurst, center, performs on stage during the opening ceremony of the Life Ball in front of City Hall in Vienna, Austria, Saturday, May 16, 2015. The Life Ball is a charity gala to raise money for people living with HIV and AIDS.

For those not in tuxedos, the color of the evening was gold, and many of the costumes glittered correspondingly. Markus Zenner and Gerhard Grein came as fairy princes because at a party open to all "high nobility also has to be represented."

Others, like Julia, settled for little more than golden body paint. As the evening chill settled in, the 26-year old laughingly conceded that she

was cold, while her near-bare partner added: "We're waiting for the party to heat up." Both declined to give full names, saying they could get in trouble with their employers.

Actress Charlize Theron was among the celebrities in attendance and took the stage to urge continued support both for her South African AIDS charity organization and the world-wide fight against HIV—a message backed by her partner, Sean Penn.

Also there were singers Paula Abdul, Mary J. Blige and Kelly Osbourne, burlesque artist Dita Von Teese—and of course Conchita Wurst, the Austrian cross-dressing winner of last year's Eurovision song contest.

Hailing the event as "one of the best nights of my life," Osbourne said: "I will do anything for this cause because it's so beautiful."

Wurst, who has become a poster person for toler-

ance since her song contest triumph, belted out her new torch song "You Are Unstoppable," to prolonged cheers from the crowd.

She later exchanged her simple ankle-length white skirt and skimpy top to sing "Fire Storm," another new single, in a black-and-white ball gown with a trailing cape designed by Jean Paul Gaultier for an opulent fashion show by the famed French designer.

Movie shot in Mexico City takes on Trotsky's assassination

MEXICO CITY (AP)—It's a tale of love, betrayal and history's most famous murder by ice pick.

The plot to assassinate Leon Trotsky, the Soviet revolutionary-turned-exiled dissident, in Mexico City in 1940, is at the heart of "El Elegido" ("The Chosen"), an upcoming movie that's set to wrap shooting in this capital in the coming days.

Told from the perspective of Ramon Mercader, the Spaniard who wielded the murder weapon, it recounts how the young communist recruited

and trained by the Soviet secret service seduced an American woman who was close to Trotsky to get to his target.

"It's a very juicy story because it's the consummation of a great treachery. ... He betrays someone who has delivered her body and soul to him," director Antonio Chavarrias told The Associated Press during a visit to the set. "That's really suggestive. It adds complexity to the plot."

"El Elegido" stars Mexican actor Alfonso Herrera ("The Perfect Dictatorship") as Mercader; British stage veteran

Henry Goodman as Trotsky; and Hannah Murray, best known for portraying the single-mom widdling Gilly in "Game of Thrones," as Sylvia Ageloff, the dupe who fell in love with the Spanish assassin.

After founding the Red Army and serving as the equivalent of Soviet defense minister, Trotsky became a political pariah and was expelled from the country in 1929.

A death sentence from Josef Stalin hanging over his head, Trotsky traveled to Turkey, France and Norway before

Mexico agreed to take him in 1937. He settled in the colonial-bohemian Mexico City neighborhood of Coyoacan, which was home to famed artists Diego Rivera and Frida Kahlo—the latter of whom had an affair with Trotsky.

Neither Rivera nor Kahlo

appear in the movie, but some scenes were filmed in the Coyoacan home where Trotsky lived and where Mercader sank the pick, a mountaineering tool also called an ice axe, into Trotsky's head. The house has been preserved as a museum.

"I think (the assassination)

wasn't the fault of the Mexican police, because Trotsky even had his own bodyguards," said Emilio Echevarria, who plays the Mexican colonel in charge of Trotsky's guard. "What happened was an intrigue in which the killer took advantage of a woman by seducing her."

Beyonce visits Haiti to see progress made since 2010 quake

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP)—Pop queen Beyonce has paid a visit to Haiti to look at the progress made since an earthquake devastated the country five years ago.

Haiti U.N. mission spokeswoman Sophie Boutaud de la Combe said Saturday that Beyonce also was able to "meet some of the people who were

affected by" the 2010 disaster in the impoverished Caribbean country.

De la Combe said the American singer, a 20-time Grammy winner, visited Haiti with Valerie Amos, the United Nations' humanitarian affairs chief and emergency relief coordinator.

Photos taken during her Haiti visit show Beyonce wearing a T-

shirt emblazoned with the name of her charity organization.

It wasn't immediately clear how long Beyonce's stop in Haiti was or exactly where she visited.

Official estimates say the 2010 quake that shattered Haiti's capital and surrounding areas claimed as many as 300,000 lives.

George Harrison guitar from 1963 brings \$490,000 at auction

NEW YORK (AP)—A guitar George Harrison played at a time when Beatlemania was taking flight has sold for nearly half a million dollars at a New York auction.

Julien's Auctions says the 1963 Mastersound electric guitar went for \$490,000 Friday to

an undisclosed bidder. Julien's says Harrison borrowed it from a British music store and played it on stage several times in England and in Channel Islands in the summer of 1963.

It was offered during a two-day rock memorabilia auction.

A so-called "penguin" suit

that Elvis Presley wore on stage in Las Vegas in 1975 sold for nearly \$122,000. Presley's marriage certificate from his 1967 wedding to Priscilla Presley sold for over \$40,000.

A vest worn by Jimi Hendrix sold for over \$59,000. A tank top Madonna wore sold for \$25,000.

Prince Harry shoots winning goal as New Zealand tour ends

AUCKLAND, New Zealand (AP)—Britain's Prince Harry finished a weeklong New Zealand tour Saturday in which he visited remote islands and engaged with indigenous Maori by paddling a traditional canoe and delivering a greeting in the native language.

Harry showed off his athletic skills on his final day in Auckland when he scored the winning goal in a friendly 5-a-side soccer game. The game was designed to highlight the upcom-

ing FIFA World Cup for under 20-year-old players which New Zealand hosts later this month.

Harry's last official engagement was visiting a sports training center. He was scheduled to fly back to the United Kingdom Saturday evening.

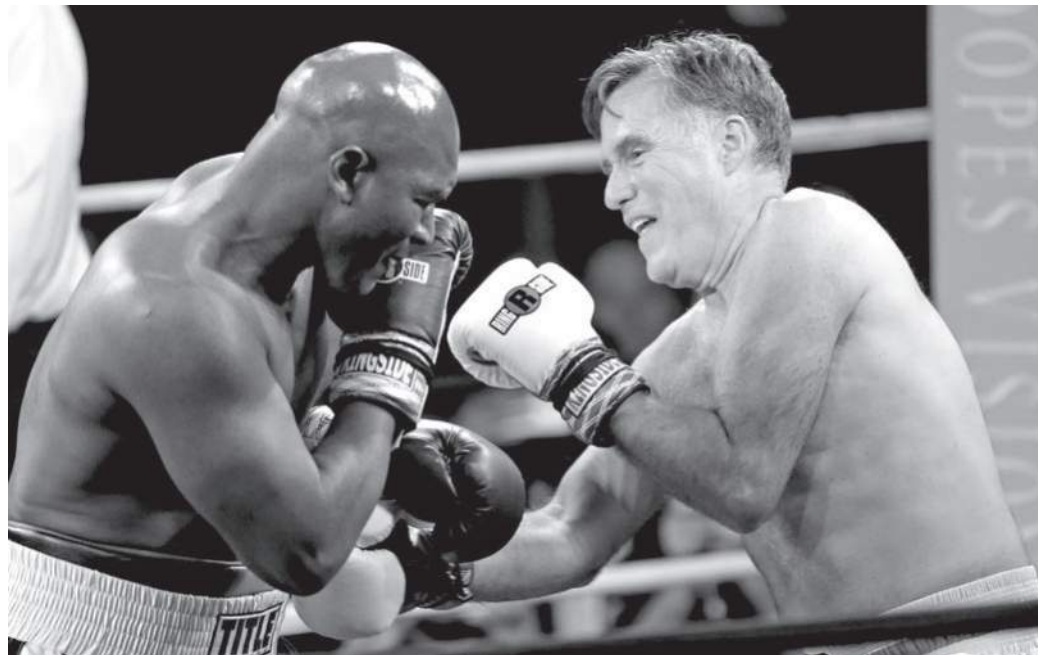
Harry told reporters he was thrilled he got to travel to every corner of the country and meet so many New Zealanders during a trip he described as "epic fun."

"I think it's unfair to put a highlight on such an amaz-

ing trip," the prince said when asked to name one. "It has been fantastic. The welcome that I've had has been typically Kiwi I suppose. I couldn't have asked for a better reception."

Harry said he had been given plenty of gifts to take home to his young niece Charlotte and he hoped to visit New Zealand again, perhaps in 2017 during the British and Irish Lions rugby tour.

The prince is the grandson of Britain's monarch, Queen Elizabeth II.



AP

Five-time heavyweight boxing champion Evander Holyfield, left, fights against former Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney during a charity fight night event Friday, May 15, 2015, in Salt Lake City.

SALT LAKE CITY (AP)—Former Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney and five-time heavyweight boxing champion Evander Holyfield squared off in the ring at a charity fight night event in Salt Lake City.

Romney, 68, and Holyfield, 52, sparred, if you could call it that, for just two short rounds Friday before Romney ran away from the boxer and threw in the towel, giving up a round early in the lighthearted fight that came amid several other fights by professional boxers and an auction.

The two barely threw any punches and largely just danced around, occasionally lightly jabbing each other in the midsection in what was much more of a comedic event than an actual bout.

The black-tie affair raised money for the Utah-based organization CharityVision, which helps doctors in developing countries perform surgeries to restore vision in people with curable blindness.

Romney's son Josh Romney, who lives in Utah, serves as a volunteer president for CharityVision.

Corporate sponsorships for the event ranged from \$25,000 to \$250,000. Organizers say they raised at least \$1 million.

"He said, 'You know what? You float like a bee and sting like a butterfly,'" Romney said after the fight.

Attendees just enjoyed the festive atmosphere and the chance to see Romney in the ring.

"Oh, it was great. I was very proud of Mitt," said Katie Anderson, who attended the event with her husband.

"I was happy it went to the second round," Devin Anderson said.

Romney, the most-high profile Mormon in America, is hugely popular in the state, where more than 60 percent of the residents are members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Beyond his religious connections, the former Massachusetts governor is remembered by many for turning around Salt Lake City's 2002 Winter Olympics after a bribery scandal.

Romney has recently built a home in the Salt Lake City area and registered as a Utah voter.

Sister getting married opts out of all-inclusive affair

DEAR ABBY: My only sister, "Carolyn," is getting married in two months. I'm ecstatic for her. She and her girlfriend turned 50 this year, and this is the happiest I have ever seen her. They are perfect together. Carolyn asked me to be her maid of honor and I gladly accepted. I am also decorating for her small wedding and reception.

When I received my wedding invitation last week, I was shocked and saddened. It was addressed to me and my kids only. My significant other, "Greg" (the kids' father), and I were married for 22 years and divorced three years ago. We have had some tough times but did reconcile. Even though we are divorced, we stayed together and never split households.

I have no idea how to tell Greg. I asked Carolyn if excluding Greg had been an oversight, and she said she would just prefer that he not be there. I can respect that, and I don't want to cause any drama or take anything away from her day.

Does this seem appropriate? My feelings are hurt, and I could have used Greg's help with things. How do I tell him he's not invited?

IN A WEDDING QUANDARY

DEAR QUANDARY: Tell Greg the same way you told me. And after you do, don't be surprised that the relationship Greg has with Carolyn and her wife will be more distant

than it has been.

It's possible that when you and Greg divorced, she developed a dislike for him that didn't abate after you reconciled, and it's sad that she chose this occasion to display it. Personally, I think her choice is one she'll regret in the future, but neither you nor I can change it.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I'm a high school student, but it's not easy for me. Studying is hard at home because I just want to goof off after a long day at school. My grades are OK, but I'm worried that if this continues they will slip.

Then there's my eating habits and fitness. My school lunch period starts late in the day, so it's hard to stay satisfied from breakfast. When I get home, I'm still hungry and eat whatever's around, not usually healthy. And sitting all day at school doesn't help my fitness. Recently, I decided to have only a cup of water or soda until dinner, but I'm not sure that's healthy. Exercising at home doesn't happen because I'm either goofing off or doing homework.

Finally, there's my sleep habits. I go to bed at 8 or 9, but I have to wake up at 5 the next morning. How can I have good grades, be fit and be rested while having fun, too?

MULTI-TASKER IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

DEAR MULTI-TASKER: If you arrive home with low

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



energy, put on some walking shoes and go for a walk/jog or do some other form of exercise. When you return home, your mind will be alert. Then, have a piece of fruit with some cheese or a boiled egg. This should hold you until dinner. Water is healthy, and you should be able to drink it in unlimited amounts.

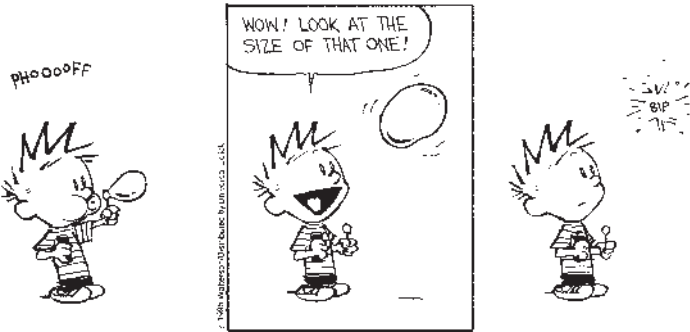
After you have had your snack, get your homework out of the way. If you do, there should be an hour or so in the evening for you to "goof off" before bedtime without feeling guilty.

■■■

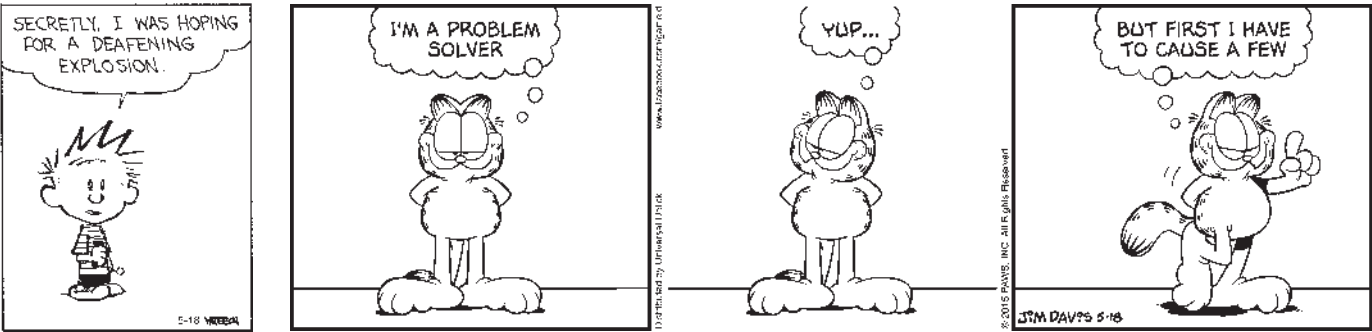
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Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



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The Duplex



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

- 1 I love (Lat.)
- 4 Recede
- 7 Detest
- 11 Over-extended
- 13 Hair-salon item
- 14 First victim
- 15 Afrikaner
- 16 "— whiz!"
- 17 57-Across site
- 18 Confused
- 20 On pension (Abbr.)
- 22 Commotion
- 24 Snapshots
- 28 Automobile framework
- 32 Bring forth
- 33 Sharpen
- 34 Alicia Florick's field
- 36 A Great Lake
- 37 Enola Gay payload

DOWN

- 1 Actress Jessica
- 2 Academic
- 3 Individuals
- 4 Omelet necessity
- 5 "Cheers" target
- 6 Censor's sound
- 7 Quickly and in large amounts
- 8 Homer Simpson's dad
- 9 Sleuth
- 10 Wapiti
- 12 Request for a bribe
- 19 Billboards
- 21 Definite article
- 23 Lubricate
- 25 Ripped
- 26 "Grapes of Wrath" type
- 27 Gets a glimpse of
- 28 Bloke
- 29 Vagrant
- 30 Unsigned (Abbr.)
- 31 Despondent
- 35 Marry
- 38 Clear the tables
- 40 Prized possession
- 42 Song of praise
- 45 Layer
- 47 Ante, maybe
- 48 Autumn tool
- 49 Leave out
- 50 Media watchdog org.
- 51 Meadow
- 52 Right angle
- 54 Wrong (Pref.)

Solution time: 27 mins.

Friday's answer

H	N	J	O	C	A	P	G	P	O			
A	E	I	N	O	W	L	E	A	U			
D	O	T	E	D	B	A	Y	O	N	E	T	
E	M	U	E	E	L	P	I	A	N	O		
R	A	K	E	G	C	O	D	E				
A	G	E	N	D	A	C	A	N	N	E	S	
D	O	N	U	T	E	A	K					
U	N	T	I	E	N	E	O	T	R			
N	O	O	N	R	T	O	F					
U	H	A	G	N	E	I	M	O	L	A	H	
E	M	S	O	N	E	P	R	I	C	E		
R	A	T		W	E	D		H	E	X	E	D

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Tina Fey, 45; George Strait, 63; Reggie Jackson, 69; Robert Morse, 84.

Happy Birthday: Concentrate on what you can do to get ahead. Search for new possibilities that will add to your skills and expertise. You would like to see some changes, but be careful of the costs involved. Sticking to your budget will be half the battle this year. Strive for greater security and stability in your relationship and finances. Discipline will pay off. Your numbers are 3, 9, 13, 20, 27, 35, 42.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Being overly generous will not make a difference. Instead, try to be a fun person to be around. The gains from people wanting to be on your team will far exceed what you can accomplish by trying to buy favors. ★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Take life one step at a time. Problems within partnerships will arise if you force your will on others. Learn from past experiences and don't put yourself or others in a vulnerable position. You will accomplish more on your own. ★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You'll pick up information quickly. Discover new ways to bring about healthy lifestyle changes. Trips, conferences or just surfing the Internet will give you the knowledge you require to make a good move. Don't believe everything you hear. ★★★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): A problem with a contract, investment or health issue is best taken care of personally and swiftly. Don't allow anyone else to take care of your business. Only you will have the foresight to know what's best for you. Self-improvement is highlighted. ★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Get moving and make the changes that will improve your standard of living. Gather information and discuss your plans with the people you care about. A solid relationship will lead to a better lifestyle. ★★★

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Keep busy. Sign up for a physical challenge or pursue something invigorating that will help you accomplish your goals. Love and affection are highlighted, so offer to do something nice for the person you cherish the most. ★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Being stubborn will not help you get your way. Emotional matters will escalate quickly, putting you in an awkward position. Don't make an impulsive move that could compromise your chances of getting ahead. Be positive and compromising. ★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Don't trust what people tell you. Empty promises or false information will lead to poor choices. Put greater emphasis on what you can do to improve your domestic life and bring about healthy changes in your community. ★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Love and romance are highlighted. Be sure to have some fun. Make plans to do something unusual or artistically stimulating. Don't neglect time-

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Refrain from making changes just because someone wants you to. Research your options and do what works best for you. You may not please everyone, but you are best to protect your interests. Back away from unpredictable situations. ★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Keep your emotions in check and your mind focused on what you want to accomplish. An opportunity to work alongside someone with vision will spark ideas that will be profitable. Hard work will bring good results. ★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Size up any situation you face before you make a commitment. Conflicts will develop due to poor information or deception. Rely on your own ability and knowledge to get what you want. Love is on the rise and romance is encouraged. ★★★★★

Birthday Baby: You are determined, imaginative and popular. You are adaptable and entertaining.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on [twitter/facebook/linkedin](https://twitter.com/eugenialast).

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's SUDOKU Answer

4	2	5	1	3	6	8	9	7
9	8	6	7	4	2	3	1	5
3	1	7	5	8	9	4	2	6
6	9	2	4	7	1	5	8	3
7	4	3	8	2	5	9	6	1
8	5	1	6	9	3	7	4	2
5	6	8	3	1	4	2	7	9
1	7	9	2	5	8	6	3	4
2	3	4	9	6	7	1	5	8

Difficulty Level ★ 5/18

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WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

BLOOD SUGAR METERS Solution: 7 letters

M K C E L E C T R O N I C Y T
G I C A T M O T S U C P R L D
N L C I R A M E T E R O U S R
I D U R T R N T E T M S A M O
D I E C O S Y I H E E C L R P
A G C Z O L E G M R C A A A L
E I S R I S I M O U P S E L E
R T I A I L E T R P L O M A T
A A D V K A A A E E T L S T N
D L D C S L T N L R C I O I E
N A A U E E K O E E R O I I
E B R C L E C N G S R G E N T
L E L B R E B M U N R T N I A
A A A C H D I A B E T E S I P
C C S C L I C K S T R I P S F

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Accurate, Advise, Alarms, Alerts, Backlight, Cable, Calculator, Calendar, Carry, Check, Click, Custom, Daily, Diabetes, Digital, Disc, Droplet, Electronic, Finger, Glucose, Illuminate, Meal, Measure, Memory, Meter, Microliter, Number, Option, Palm, Patient, Personalized, Pierce, Post, Pump, Reading, Result, Screen, Sensor, Stick, Strips

Last Friday's Answer: Concierge

To purchase WONDERWORD books, visit www.WonderWordBooks.com, or call 1-800-642-6480.

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

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LOOKING FOR RENT

Looking for House, and Beach Property near Garapan area for long term lease. Call Zheng at 287-7676

WANTED
Cement Supervisor - \$7.73 per hour
Must have cement handling equipment experience
Apply in person at
Hanson Micronesia Cement

Warehouse for RENT
REM GUALO RAI
Warehouse #3 - Size: 4,000sq/ft
\$0.85 per sq/ft. Negotiable
REM LOWERBASE
Warehouse #2 - Size: 6,000sq/ft
\$0.65 per sq/ft. Negotiable
FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL
235-6527/28 or 285-1317

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
Cheer Dragon Leasing Corporation has a vacancy on the following position:
General Manager of Skydiving Operation Chief Instructor
Applicant must be a skydiver with experience of 15000 jumps, with knowledge in skydiving and tandem operation, at least 2 years experience in managing skydiving and tandem operation, must hold tandem instructor rating or manufacturer endorsement, with knowledge and experience in aerial photography (handy cam) and editing of video and photo materials. Communication in foreign language is a plus.
CV and inquiries maybe forwarded to jump@skydivemarianas.com

JVA for MISA ENTERPRISES, INC.

General Maintenance (2): Duties may involve skills in electrical, plumbing, carpentry, masonry, painting, landscape or maintain grounds of property using hand or power tools or equipment. Can typically perform variety of task such as sod laying, mowing, trimming, planting, watering, fertilizing, digging, raking and installing , repairing buildings, floors or stairs.

Additional Requirements: Must have a valid CNMI driver's license and flexible in work hours. All applicants must be of good health and good moral character must be able to provide current police clearance, with reliable transportation and must agree to drug test.

Applicants of position listed above are required to have a minimum of 2-3 years of experience.
We are an equal opportunity employer. Qualified applicants will be considered.
Applications can be picked up at Kinpachi Restaurant MISA Bldg.1 in Coral Tree Avenue, Garapan.
Please no phone calls.

JVA for YANO Enterprises, Inc. dba: Kinpachi Restaurant

Cook (2): Must be experienced & skilled in preparing Japanese cuisine including but not limited to sushi, sashimi, & tempura. Can prepare all menu items according to quantity menus, must know cutting and preparation techniques for each type of fish used in sushi rolls as well as how to prepare rice, sauces and seasonal ingredients, must ensure that ingredients are fresh, colorful and always in stock, that the all-important knives are sharp and clean, and that all equipment is in working order. Must be able to maintain kitchen & observe safety & sanitary food handling practices as well as other related duties.

Additional Requirements: All applicants must be of good health and have a good moral character, must be able to follow grooming standards, must be able to provide required food handler health certificate, must be able to provide current police clearance, with reliable transportation and must agree to drug test. Can work in flexible hours including weekends and night time. Applicants of positions listed above are required to have a minimum of 1-2 year experience. Applications can be picked up at Kinpachi Restaurant in Coral Tree Avenue, Garapan.

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Please no phone calls.

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Small 1-BR, 1-BTH. Unit approximately 284 sq.ft. **\$250/month.**
2-BR, 1-BTH. **\$350-\$550/month.** Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted.
Ocean View Terraces
(Navy Hill) Unit Approximately 642 sq/ft
Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apt with private balcony & beautiful view. **\$600/month**
Sunset View Terraces
(Navy Hill) Unit Approximately 642 sq/ft
Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apt with private balcony & beautiful view. **\$550/month**
Hilltop Condominium*
(San Vicente) Unit approximately 1,024sq/ft
Luxury 2BR & 2BTH Apt with private balcony & majestic view. **\$700/month**
Luxury 1BR & 1BTH approximately 600 sq/ft **\$500/month**
***Wi-Fi & nighttime security excluded**
FEATURES:
■ Fully Furnished
■ Back-up Generator
■ Air-conditioning in all rooms
■ FREE WIFI
■ Laundry Area
■ Nighttime Security
■ Ample Parking
■ 24hr water
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Call for an appointment 235-6527/8.

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CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as \$30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	\$15	\$30
• 5-Liner	\$24	\$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

Aon Insurance Micronesia Inc.
is in need of the following positions:

Operations Manager (Saipan)

- Ability to lead successful insurance team in Saipan.
- Ability to understand & analyze insurance related matters
- Ability to handle customer concerns in a team centered environment
- Ability to manage & grow client relationships
- Strong Business & People Management Skills

Customer Service Representative (2 Guam positions, 1 Saipan position)

- High school diploma is required and some college preferred
- Customer-focused orientation
- Strong organizational skills including time management and delegation
- Assertive and motivating individual
- Excellent written and oral communication skills
- P&C Insurance License Required (Or held within last 2 years) for Guam positions

Accountant (Saipan)

- Bachelor's Degree in Accounting preferred
- Minimum 2 - 3 years accounting experience
- Excellent fundamental accounting skills; hands on experience with general ledger reconciliations
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- Must demonstrate initiative and interact effectively with others in a team environment
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Qualified applicants can submit their resume and credentials to mike.conner@aon.com
No Phone Calls.

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WHISPERING PALMS SCHOOL

NOW RECRUITING FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2015-2016:

(1) 7th/8th Grade Classroom Teacher
(1) Part-Time Science Teacher
Qualifications:

Education: Appropriate Bachelor's degree from an accredited university
Master's degree from an accredited university is preferred

Experience: Two or more years of classroom teaching experience is preferred

(1) Part-Time Administrative Assistant
Qualifications:

- Highly organized and detail-oriented
- Articulate and fluent in English
- Friendly, outgoing personality, able to interact in a professional manner
- Excellent telephone etiquette skills
- Current CNMI Driver's License and transportation
- Strong financial skills with some knowledge of accounting procedures
- Ability to type, use a computer, fax, copier and other office equipment
- Proficient in Microsoft Word and Excel, especially with entering formulas and making formulas

Opening Date: May 13, 2015
Closing Date: May 27, 2015

Please email your resume with local references to: whisperingpalms@saipan@gmail.com

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Cabrera hits 400th homer, Tigers outlast Cards 4-3 in 10



ST. LOUIS
(AP)—Miguel Cabrera hit his

400th career home run and nearly five hours later Jose Iglesias had an RBI single in the 10th inning that sent the Detroit Tigers over the St. Louis Cardinals 4-3 on a rainy Saturday.

Cabrera's milestone shot gave him the most homers by a Venezuelan-born player, passing Andres Galarraga. The solo shot came in the first inning just before a rain delay of 1 hour, 20 minutes.

Cabrera has hit four homers in three games, 10 overall and 262 with Detroit, tying him with Willie Horton for fourth on the franchise list.

Adrian Beltre of Texas hit his 400th homer Friday. Cabrera tied Beltre for 52nd place on the career list, with Duke Snider next at 407.

Giants 11, Reds 2

In Cincinnati, Brandon Crawford hit a grand slam and drove in a career-high six runs and Hunter Pence scored three times in his return from a broken forearm, leading San Francisco to a victory over Cincinnati.

The defending World Series champions are hoping their offense gets a boost from Pence's return. The right fielder was hit by a pitch during spring training, causing a fracture just above the left wrist. He had hits in his first two at-bats off Mike Leake (2-2), helping San Francisco pull ahead 5-0.

Crawford's fourth career grand slam in the fifth inning made it 9-0, the most runs that Leake has allowed in his career. Brandon Belt and Gregor Blanco had solo shots off Leake.

The Reds managed two runs and six hits in 5 2-3 innings off Ryan Vogelsong (2-2), including Jay Bruce's solo homer.

Yankees 5, Royals 1

In Kansas City, Mo., Chase Headley and Alex Rodriguez homered, CC Sabathia found his form in his eighth start of the season, and New York beat Kansas City.

The Yankees snapped their skid at four and evened the three-game series.

With rain approaching the entire evening, Sabathia (2-5) made quick work of the Royals, who had pounded out 12 runs on 17 hits the previous night. The lefty allowed the lone run on six hits without a walk in seven innings to win his second straight start.

Headley hit a three-run drive and Rodriguez added his 10th homer of the season in the ninth.

Danny Duffy (2-3) lost his third straight start, allowing four runs on four hits and four walks in five innings. It was a modest improvement over his previous two starts, when he'd been hammered for 10 runs in 4 2-3 innings by the Indians and Rangers.



AP
Detroit Tigers' Miguel Cabrera rounds the bases after hitting a solo home run during the first inning of a baseball game against the St. Louis Cardinals, Saturday, May 16, 2015, in St. Louis.

innings. He also fell to 0-5 in as many starts against the Angels.

Twins 6, Rays 4

In Minneapolis, Brian Dozier homered, Eduardo Escobar had four hits and Minnesota took advantage of a rare Tampa Bay error to win.

After Tim Beckham hit a two-run homer to tie it at 3 in the top of the seventh, Torii Hunter singled and Joe Mauer walked with one out in Minnesota's half of the inning.

Trevor Plouffe tapped a bouncer back to reliever Kevin Jepsen (1-3), whose wide throw to second pulled Beckham off the base.

Kurt Suzuki followed with a sacrifice fly to give Minnesota the lead. Escobar added an RBI single, which right fielder Steven Souza Jr. misplayed for another error.

Entering Saturday, Tampa Bay was tied for the fewest errors in baseball with 13.

Phillies 7, Diamondbacks 5

In Philadelphia, Jeff Francoeur hit a home run and Grady Sizemore had four hits to lead Philadelphia to a fourth straight win.

Chase Utley had two hits and two RBIs for the Phillies, who matched their season high in runs in the game that was delayed 1 hour, 17 minutes by rain.

Jerome Williams (3-3) allowed three runs—two earned—in five innings and seven hits to snap a two-game losing streak. Jonathan Papelbon pitched a 1-2-3 ninth for his ninth save.

Rookie Yasmany Tomas hit his first major league homer, and Paul Goldschmidt had a two-run homer for Arizona, which has lost four of five.

White Sox 4, Athletics 3

In Oakland, Calif., Melky Cabrera hit a go-ahead single in the seventh inning after yet another costly error by Oakland, and Chicago rallied for the second straight night.

Avisail Garcia hit a tying two-run single in the third to back John Danks (2-3). He struck out six in seven innings and won on the road for the first time in four tries.

The A's committed an error in their 13th straight game, the longest streak for the franchise since 13 in a row from April 7-21, 1983. Reliever Fernando Rodriguez (0-1) fielded No. 9 hitter Carlos Sanchez's bunt and threw it wildly into right field for a two-base error to put Adam Eaton on third. Cabrera knocked him home moments later.

Rockies 7, Dodgers 1

In Los Angeles, Jorge De La Rosa pitched two-hit ball over seven-plus scoreless innings before leaving with an injury and Colorado blasted three home runs to beat Los Angeles, handing Zack Greinke his first loss of the season.

De La Rosa (1-2) retired 18 consecutive batters after Kike Hernandez led off the first inning with a double and Jimmy Rollins reached on a throwing error. The 34-year-old left-hander departed after giving up an infield single to Howie Kendrick with one out in the seventh.

Carlos Gonzalez, Daniel Descalso and Nolan Arenado homered for the Rockies.

Greinke (5-1), who leads the majors in ERA at 1.52, allowed four hits and no walks through six innings and struck out five before he was lifted for a pinch-hitter with the Dodgers trailing 1-0.

Astros 6, Blue Jays 5

In Houston, Chris Carter, Marwin Gonzalez and Evan Gattis homered and Houston beat Toronto for its fourth straight win.

This is the latest point in a season the AL West-leading Astros have been in first place since May 22, 2004, when they topped the NL Central. At 24-13, Houston has its best 37-game start since 1999.

With Houston trailing 3-2, Carter hit a three-run shot off reliever Liam Hendricks in the sixth inning. One out later, Gonzalez homered to center field.

Cubs 4, Pirates 1

In Chicago, Jon Lester out-pitched Gerrit Cole with seven gutsy innings, and Chicago beat Pittsburgh for its sixth straight win.

Kris Bryant went 2 for 2 with two walks and scored twice as the Cubs moved six games over .500 for the first time since they were 83-77 on Oct. 3, 2009,

according to STATS. It is the longest win streak for Chicago since a seven-game run in 2011.

Lester (4-2) allowed one run and nine hits in his fourth consecutive win. The left-hander struck out seven, running his career total to 1,504 Ks, and walked one.

Sean Rodriguez homered for Pittsburgh, which has dropped four in a row. Starling Marte and Jung Ho Kang had three hits apiece.

Cole (5-2) allowed two runs and seven hits in six innings.

Red Sox 4, Mariners 2

In Seattle, David Ortiz and Pablo Sandoval each homered in Boston's win.

Seattle ace Felix Hernandez (6-1) uncharacteristically struggled, losing for the first time since Sept. 23, 2014. He left after finishing the sixth inning, his second-shortest outing this season, having allowed four runs and seven hits.

Hernandez walked four and struck out five, and his three walks in the sixth inning were more than he had allowed in any of his starts this year.

Brad Miller hit two home runs for the Mariners, who lost for the third time in four games.

Rick Porcello (4-2) pitched into the seventh inning, allowing two runs on five hits with six strikeouts to earn the win.

Koji Uehara pitched a perfect ninth inning for his ninth save in 10 chances.

Mets 14, Brewers 1

In New York, Wilmer Flores hit a grand slam off Matt Garza from the No. 9 slot in the batting order, sparking a 10-run fourth inning and leading New York to a romp over Milwaukee.

Jacob deGrom had three singles—including two in the fourth—to become the second pitcher since at least 1914 to have three hits batting eighth, according to STATS.

Flores followed deGrom's second hit of the night with a drive into the left-field party deck, an area where the Mets brought in the fence before the 2012 season, for a 6-0 lead.

He became the first starting NL position player to hit a grand slam from the No. 9 hole in an NL ballpark, STATS said.

DeGrom (4-4) gave up one run in six innings, while Garza (2-5) allowed a career-high 10 runs in 3 1-3 innings.

Nationals 4, Padres 1

In San Diego, Max Scherzer pitched brilliantly for seven innings, striking out a season-high 11 and holding San Diego to four hits in leading Washington to a victory.

The Nationals won for the 14th time in 18 games.

The Padres were one out from being shut out for the second straight night and the fifth time in 12 games before Alexi Amarista hit an RBI single off Aaron Barrett. Drew Storen came on to strike out Derek Norris for his 11th save.

Wilson Ramos also had an RBI single in the three-run first to extend his career-best hitting streak to 18 games, the longest in the majors this year.

Scherzer (4-3), who walked only two, has struck out at least 10 three times in four starts.

Indians 10, Rangers 8

In Arlington, Texas, Jason Kipnis had three hits, including a tiebreaking two-run home run in the top of the ninth inning that lifted Cleveland over Texas.

The Indians have won consecutive games for the first time since their season opening series at Houston.

Kipnis, the American League's leading hitter in May, has an eight-game hitting streak and has 10 multi-hit games this month. Since moving into the leadoff spot on April 26, Kipnis is hitting .425.

Scott Atchison (1-1) picked up the win despite allowing the tying home run to Robinson Chirinos in the bottom of the eighth. Cody Allen got the last three outs for his sixth save.

Kipnis' homer came off Neftali Feliz (1-2) and was the major league-leading 19th off Texas' bullpen this season.

Braves 5, Marlins 3

In Miami, rookie Jace Peterson hit a grand slam for his first major league home run, and Atlanta overcame another tape-measure shot by Giancarlo Stanton to remain undefeated this year in Miami.

Major league RBIs leader Stanton hit his third long homer in as many games, a solo shot into the upper deck in center field, where a spectator made a one-handed catch five rows in front of the 502-foot sign.

Stanton homered into the TV camera well in center field Friday, and pulled a drive out of Dodger Stadium on Wednesday. He has five of his team's nine homers at Marlins Park this year, and 11 home runs overall.

Angels 6, Orioles 1

In Baltimore, Matt Shoemaker scattered three hits and allowed one run over seven innings, leading Los Angeles to a season-high five-game winning streak.

Mike Trout and David Freese homered for the Angels, who will try for their first three-game sweep of the season Sunday. The Orioles have lost eight of their past 11 games.

Shoemaker (3-3) won his seventh consecutive game on the road. He had seven strikeouts and no walks, winning for the first time since April 13.

Baltimore's Ubaldo Jimenez (3-3) lost for the first time in four starts at Camden Yards this season. He allowed two runs and seven hits with six strikeouts and no walks over seven

Hawks finally give Atlanta reason to cheer in playoffs



ATLANTA (AP)—From Cliff Levingston taking the final shot instead of Dominique Wilkins to the largest four-game blowout in NBA history, the Atlanta Hawks have plenty of playoff lowlights.

Now, finally, there's something to cheer about.

For the first time, the Hawks are headed to the Eastern Conference finals, just one step away from playing for the first championship since the franchise moved from St. Louis to the Deep South in 1968.

"They deserve it," said Wilkins, a Hall of Famer and probably the greatest player in team history. "They really just came together as one."

Wilkins was part of another memorable era in Atlanta history, the leader of a high-flying team that, until now, came the closest to advancing past the second round.

The Hawks were up 3-2 on Larry Bird and the Boston Celtics in 1988 but squandered a chance to wrap up the conference semifinals in Atlanta. Clinging to a two-point lead in Game 6, the Celtics double-teamed Wilkins on the final possession, forcing Levingston to put up an awkward left-handed shot with one second remaining.

He missed, of course, and the Celtics wrapped up the series in the deciding game, an epic duel between Wilkins and Bird in which Boston held on for a 118-116 victory.

Atlanta has made it to the second round only eight times since then, three of those ending in sweeps. Most notably, the Hawks took an unprecedented thumping at the hands of the



AP
Atlanta Hawks' DeMarre Carroll, Al Horford, Paul Millsap and Pero Antic, from left, celebrate after the Hawks defeated the Washington Wizards 94-91 in Game 6 of an NBA basketball playoffs second-round series, Friday, May 15, 2015, in Washington.

Orlando Magic in 2010, losing four straight games by an average of 25.25 points. Booned off the court in the final two contests at home, the team fired coach Mike Woodson shortly afterward.

There will be nothing but adulation when the Hawks open the conference finals against LeBron James and the Cleveland Cavaliers on Wednesday night, a sign of how much the city has adopted this team after years of apathy.

"It's been incredible," Wilkins, now a team executive and television commentator, said Saturday in a telephone interview. "We're finally em-

bracing our heritage, embracing a culture of basketball, and embracing the history of this team."

That history includes a few highlights and plenty of bumps.

When the Hawks moved to Atlanta 47 years ago, they were one of the NBA's top teams. Playing at tiny Alexander Memorial Coliseum on the Georgia Tech campus, they continued their strong play by reaching the division final the first two years in their new home, only to get blown out both times by the Los Angeles Lakers. The city barely seemed to notice its newest big-league team, which aver-

aged 4,474 fans during its debut season and just 5,210 the next even though the Hawks won the Western Division title.

Things changed after Wilkins, a star at the University of Georgia, was acquired in 1982. By the late '80s, Wilkins was joined by Levingston, Kevin Willis, Antoine Carr, Doc Rivers and Spud Webb on one of the league's up-and-coming teams. The Hawks sold out the Omni on a regular basis and won at least 50 games four years in a row (the only time that's happened in franchise history), but they never figured out a way to get by

those great Boston teams and other Eastern powerhouses.

"Everybody was so good, particularly in the East," Wilkins remembered. "Boston had five Hall of Famers. There was also Detroit, Chicago, Philadelphia, Cleveland, Milwaukee, just so many good teams."

Rivers, who now coaches the Los Angeles Clippers, praised his former team—especially after a tumultuous offseason in which owner Bruce Levenson was forced to sell the Hawks

and general manager Danny Ferry went on indefinite leave for racially charged comments.

"It's really good, especially with what they went through," Rivers said Saturday.

These Hawks are a definite underdog in the conference finals, despite a 60-22 mark during the regular season, winning three out of four against the Cavaliers and having home-court advantage.

They don't mind a bit. "We have a whole team that's been underdogs for the majority of their lives," guard Kyle Korver said.

Wilkins likes Atlanta's chances.

"They played 'em well during the regular season," he said. "A lot of times, that doesn't mean anything because the playoffs are a different type of basketball. But it gives them confidence going into the series. Getting to the Eastern Conference finals, we believe we can win. We know we can win."

Wilkins doesn't want to look too far ahead, but he can't help envisioning what it would be like if the Hawks advance to the NBA Finals.

"Oh man, this town would be out of control," he said, his voice rising. "And we'd be right in the middle of it."

No longer just a dunker, Griffin emerges as playoff star

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Every NBA fan knows Blake Griffin, resident dunk-monster of Lob City. His one-handed jams have been fodder for highlight reels since his pro career began five years ago.

This playoff season, Griffin is showing a new level of production.

His gaudy numbers are proving he's more than just a dunker; he's matured into a multi-faceted star in a town long dominated by Kobe Bryant, whose Lakers are nowhere to be found in the postseason.

Griffin has three triple-doubles, with two against the defending champion San Antonio Spurs, including 24 points, 13 rebounds and 10 assists in a victorious Game 7. He joined Wilt Chamberlain, Magic Johnson and Oscar Robertson with at least three in the first eight games of the postseason.

Griffin is the conduit through which everything flows for the Clippers, who find themselves tied 3-3 in their West-

ern Conference semifinal series against the Rockets after blowing a 3-1 lead.

Game 7 is Sunday in Houston, with the Clippers trying to reach the conference finals for the first time in franchise history. It's a familiar position from the first round, when they beat the Spurs at home in Game 7 to advance.

Griffin is averaging 25.4 points in the playoffs, sixth-best in the league, with his 13 games the most among any player in the top 10. His 12.8 rebounds are a playoff best. He's shooting 51 percent from the floor, 72 percent from the line and logging 39.5 minutes a game.

"Blake came into the league with talent, but now he's becoming a better NBA player," Rockets coach Kevin McHale said. "Blake handles the ball well, he's got that jump hook and he's got a jump shot."

Griffin is difficult to stop in the open court, sometimes running his own one-man fast

break. In the paint, he forces teams to throw extra bodies on him. He's averaging 6.2 assists, making opponents wary of leaving the passing lanes open.

Griffin is well-known among his coaches and teammates for the hours he puts in the gym, in-season or out, getting shots up and doing the little things to add new dimensions to his game.

"We ask him to face the basket more instead of turning your back on the basket on the post. That's the area to me that he's made the biggest improvement," coach Doc Rivers said.

"Very difficult to guard him when he faces up to you right off the block because you can't put your hands on him, with his first step and his quickness and his ability to see the floor, he's just impossible."

Griffin is every opponent's favorite target for hard fouls, and yet the 26-year-old power forward keeps his cool.

"My entire career everybody says I need to punch somebody.

I never have," he said. "Hard fouls are a part of playoff basketball, and I think that's how basketball should be."

After a standout career at Oklahoma, Griffin was drafted No. 1 overall by the Clippers in 2009. He missed his entire first year after injuring his left knee in the team's final preseason game. He quickly made up for it the next season, becoming the league's first unanimous rookie of the year since David Robinson in 1989-90.

Led by Chris Paul, the Clippers have made the playoffs each of the past four years, although they have yet to advance beyond the second round.

If they don't win Sunday, that failure would weigh heavily on Griffin, who has become an equal partner with Paul in trying to deliver the once-beleaguered franchise its first NBA championship.

"Blake puts more pressure on himself than anybody else does," teammate Jamal Crawford said.

Cavs' Irving sits out practice, status for Game 1 uncertain

INDEPENDENCE, Ohio (AP)—LeBron James should have had a stethoscope hanging around his neck as he reeled off the latest medical updates on him and his teammates.

"It goes without saying that we're banged up right now," the pseudo Dr. J said Saturday.

As they prepare to meet the Atlanta Hawks in the Eastern Conference finals, the Cavaliers are hurting.

Kyrie Irving has a tender left knee and sore right foot, James played the past two games on a sprained left ankle and has "other nicks and bruises," guard Iman Shumpert has a strained groin, forward Tristan Thompson a bruised shoulder and Kevin Love is out for the postseason following shoulder surgery.

Fortunately for the Cavs, they've got time to ice those injuries and heal before Game 1 on Wednesday night in Atlanta.

Of all Cleveland's aches and pains, Irving's knee injury is the most significant and bears

watching. The All-Star point guard has been dealing with tendinitis in the knee for several weeks, and he aggravated the condition on Thursday in the first half of Game 6 in Chicago. He sat out the final 33 minutes as the Cavs closed out the Bulls by getting a huge contribution from Irving's backup, Matthew Dellavedova, who scored a team-high 19 points.

Irving was seen Friday by team doctors, who prescribed rest and Cleveland's playmaker did not participate in Saturday's workout at Cleveland Clinic Courts.

Cavs coach David Blatt said Irving's status for the series opener remains in question. At this point, all the team can do is hope he gets better.

"We sat Ky out and he's going through a lot of treatment and we're monitoring and just hoping that he progresses from here until game time," Blatt said. "We're very much on top of this obviously and Ky is doing everything he possibly can to get well."

Jr. ITF q'fying tourney starts today

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

CNMI players gun for main draw slots in the 2015 IT&E Northern Marianas Junior Championships as the qualifying tournament for the Junior ITF event begins today at the Pacific Islands Club hard courts.

In the boys singles, five Commonwealth bets will play in the qualifier and will need two wins to advance to the 32-player main draw. The qualifying tournament has 15 players and only the four remaining players will make it to the main draw.

In the upper half of the qualifying draw, the CNMI's Vincent Tudela collide against fellow Commonwealth player Ken Song in an 8:30am match on Court 1 with the winner facing top seed Denton Ho of Hong Kong for one of the four main draw berths. Ho received a draw in the opening round of the qualifier.

Clayton Izuka is also at the top half of the draw and will challenge Singapore's Gabriel Jun Yong Chum for the right to face Japan's Yukuse Miyai, who is paired against the second-seeded Kyler Jirasook of the U.S. Izuka and Chum will play on Court 2 after the 8:30am tiff between the Philippines' Joy Dayrit and Australia's Brandon Truong.

In the bottom of the qualifying draw, the CNMI's Steven Goodwin will meet Japan's Rintaro Oka at 8:30am on Court 3, while Haruya Eda will square off against Germany's Marvin Bockers on Court 1 after Tudela and Song's match. The fourth pairing in the lower half of the draw will have South Korea's Justin Cheun battling Japan's

Haruka Aomizu on Court 3.

Meanwhile, in the girls division, participants in the qualifying tournament are all Japanese. Akari Miyazaki lead the cast, drawing a bye in the first round and automatically gaining a seat to the main draw.

Minori Otsuka will duel Chisato Hayakawa in a bid to join Miyazaki to the main draw, while the two remaining tickets will be contested by Riho Yua-



sa, Haruka Hoshimo, Risako Umekuni, and Yumi Takemura.

Otsuka and Hayakawa will play at around 11am on Court 1, while Yuasa and Hoshino and Umekuni and Takemura have the same schedule on Court 2 and 3, respectively.

Winners in the qualifying tournament will join the CNMI's Tammy Ackerman, Carol Lee, Negahr Rastguiy, and Mikayla Lopez in the



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Steven Goodwin, seen here serving against Robbie Schorr in a local tournament, will be playing in the qualifying tournament for the 2015 IT&E Northern Marianas Junior Championships today at the Pacific Islands Club hard courts.

main draw, which also has players from Hong Kong, Ja-

pan, China, Philippines, Palau, and Singapore. China's Xiaoxi

Zhao and Japan's Ayumi Hirata are the Top 2 seeds in the girls singles.

In the boys singles, China holds the Top 2 seeding in the No. 225-ranked Chukang Wang and No. 422 Yi Zhou Liu.

LBT grabs semis berth from Armatech

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

LBT Appraisal owns the second automatic semis berth in the Masters division of the 2015 United Filipino Organization Basketball League.

League organizers made the clarification a day after announcing that Armatech won the outright semis ticket to join regular season champion Blue Haus in the semifinals. Armatech routed Old' Aces, 80-58, last Wednesday in the final regular season game to finish the round-robin contest with a 3-2 record.

Armatech went on to force a three-way tie for second place with LBT Appraisal and Auto Motion behind the unbeaten Blue Haus (5-0) and UFO's Bong Malasarte, in a telephone interview with *Saipan Tribune* last Thursday, said Armatech won the tiebreak.

However, organizers reviewed the game results of the three tied teams last Friday and changed the earlier decision, giving the No. 2 spot to LBT Appraisal, which also took the second and last automatic semis ticket. The Top 2 finishers in the regular season received free semis passes, while the bottom four will battle for the two remaining Final Four slots.

LBT Appraisal prevailed in the three-team logjam after earning 14 points when its winning margin against Armatech was



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

LBT Appraisal's Jun Alipio looks for a teammate to pass the ball to as he is cornered by Blue Haus' Junar Guiab during their regular season game in the Masters division of the UFO caging this month at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

subtracted to its losing margin to Auto Motion. LBT won by 16 markers against Armatech, 80-64, and lost by only 2 versus Auto Motion, 105-107.

Armatech ended up in third place with 13 points. It recorded a 27-point winning margin against Auto Motion, 95-68. Auto Motion dropped to fourth place with its -25 points.

With Armatech and Auto Motion losing in the tiebreak, they have to beat Graphics/Star 6 and Old' Aces this Wednesday and Friday, respectively, to march into the semifinals. In the Final Four, there will be no

seeding, as draws will be held to determine the semis pairings, which will be No. 1 vs. No. 4 and No. 2 against No. 3.

Meanwhile, in the U20 division, third-ranked Blue Haus will take on the fourth-seeded Ol' Aces this Wednesday at 8pm in a battle for the third semis berth.

Winner of the lone U20 match will join the unbeaten Sonics and Armatech in the semis, while the loser will meet Gilas this Friday for the last Final Four seat. The U20 division will follow the same format of the Masters category in the semifinals.



MHS to face SSHS in MISO softball playoffs

Marianas High School takes on Saipan Southern High School today at the start of the playoff round of the Marianas Inter-scholastic Sports Organization Fast-pitch softball league at the Miguel Basa "Tan Ge" Pangelinan ballfield.

MISO executive director Nick Gross said that with Tinian and Rota not joining this season, he decided to proceed with a four-team tournament between MHS, Mt. Carmel School, Kagman High School, and Saipan Southern.

The Lady Dolphins are aiming for a third straight finals stint in order to complete their own

three-peat title bid and in the process match the most number of titles won by their semis opponent.

MHS defeated Saipan Southern in 2012, 17-16, to win its first softball crown and duplicated the feat against the Lady Mantas, 9-7, last year. SSHS was the inaugural champion in 2008 and was the champion until 2010.

Kagman, the No. 3 seed after the double-round robin, dethroned three-time champion Saipan Southern in 2011. The Lady Ayuyus will take on the second-ranked Mt. Carmel Lady Knights in the playoffs to-

morrow, Tuesday.

The losing teams of today's match and tomorrow's game will play in a consolation game on Thursday, May 21, while both winners of the playoffs contests will clash for the championship on Friday, May 22.

All games start at 4pm with four complete innings an official result. The home plate umpire may stop the game if he deemed it is no longer safe to continue the match.

The mercy rule will be applied with the game ending after four innings if one team is ahead by 20 or more runs or in the fifth if they are leading by 10 or more runs. (Jon Perez)



U14

From Page 28

and off the pitch because your behavior plays an important factor in AFC's decision whether to invite us again for similar competitions. It's up to you whether future players will have the same opportunity as yours," said Tan, who were joined in the send-off ceremony by NMIFA vice president Vickie Izuka, NMIFA Youth Committee official Joseph Villagomez, various club officials, former CNMI youth team members, and the players' parents.

In the AFC event that will run from May 19 to 24, the Commonwealth youth players will be up against host China, North Korea, and Hong Kong in Group B. Japan, Chinese-Taipei, Guam, and South Korea are in Group A. The CNMI bets will face China and Korea in their first two games on Tuesday and Wednesday before closing out against Hong Kong this Thursday.

"The first two matches will be very difficult so we will be

focusing on defense. China and North Korea are tough teams, so our goal is to minimize their scoring to at least single digit. We lost to China the last time at 9-0 and we hope to perform better this time. Realistically, we have a good chance against Hong Kong and we are aiming for a win or a draw," Ito said.

Ito added they are hoping that the long preparation they had and the significant improvement they saw from the players will be enough to help the squad put on a good showing in the AFC competition.

"We started training in October and since then our players have shown big improvements. Our veteran players have improved their individual skills and at the same time have shown better chemistry. The newcomers have picked up new skills and continued to play well and keep up with the veterans as our preparation progressed," the team manager added.

Sekiguchi, who watched the squad train four times a week, pointed out to the team's speed

and well-conditioning as key factors in their campaign in Beijing."

"They definitely can match up against their opponents as far as speed is concerned. I hope they will use that during the game and also apply the techniques and tactics they learned from their training sessions," the NMIFA technical director said.

Lyka Sally, the team captain, vowed they will do their best to represent the CNMI well.

"We will go all out to produce the best possible results and make the CNMI proud," she said.

Meanwhile, Tan thanked the parents and the officials of the clubs represented on the CNMI squad and the Chelsea FC Soccer School (Hong Kong). He said that training the CNMI youth players for the regional championship will not be possible without the support and encouragement of their parents and club officials and the technical assistance given by Chelsea FC staff.

LEINA

From Page 28

parred the last two to keep her 2-over 74 score. She had a total of three bogeys, her fewest in any of the four rounds in the tournament while her 14 pars was the most.

Kim's 12th place finish capped a memorable NCAA

season where she won five of the nine tournaments in the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference. She was in the Top 10 in the four other RMAC events to earn her third RMAC Golfer of the Year award.

She also holds the national best scoring average of 72.47 per round entering the Division II national championship and

she ranks 24th overall among all collegiate golfers in the NCAA Division I, II, III, NAIA, and NJCAA.

Midwestern State's Breanna Moore topped the individual tournament with a 9-over-297 while the University of Indianapolis claimed the team championship following a 60-over 1,212.

2015 FA Boys and Girls Challenge Cup Finals

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Matansa coach Ho Jin Woo and his players pose with their championship trophy during the awards ceremony for the 2015 FA Boys and Girls Challenge Cup held this month at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.



NMIFA general secretary Ross Zapanta, right, presents the perpetual trophy to Matansa coach Ho Jin Woo.



Matansa's Pinyarat Shankweiller goes for a free kick.



Matansa's Angelica Sally, right, and Shirley's FC's Samantha Maniacop battle for possession.



Shirley's FC players pose for a photo after playing against Matansa in the finals.



Matansa and Shirley's FC players exchange high-fives after their title match.



Matansa's Maile Aldrich dribbles against two Shirley's defenders.



Shirley's FC's Mia Carreon, right, and Matansa's Angelica Sally chase the ball.



Matansa's Lyka Sally, left, uses her knee to advance the ball, while Shirley's FC's Samantha Maniacop stays close on defense.



**Cabrera hits
400th homer,
Tigers outlast
Cards 4-3 in 10**

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Saipan Tribune Sports

**Jr. ITF q'fying
tournament
starts today**

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

U14 girls nationals off to Beijing



By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI U14 Girls National Team left for Saipan early yesterday morning to compete in the AFC U14 Girls Regional Championships (East) 2015 in Beijing, China.

The squad is composed of goalies Katherine Magat and Toremy Diaz, Katrina Costales, Anela Duenas, Samantha Ma-

nacop, Jasmin Phan, Angela, Leisha, and Lyka Sally, Erica Santiago, Jobelle Tabuena, Kyla Tuazon, Angelina Villagomez,

Grace Choi, Jerlyn Castillo, Francesca Bucalig, Guinevere Borja, and Princess Alcantara. Joining the group in Beijing are team manager Angie Ito, Northern Mariana Islands Football Association technical director Kiyoshi Sekiguchi, delegation head Luam Khen Koo, coach Chi Ming Tang, assistant Shuk Fan Wong, and physiotherapist Pamela Carhill.

A send-off ceremony was held for the CNMI delegation

last Saturday at the lobby of Kanoa Resort with no less than NMIFA president Jerry Tan leading the well-wishers of the squad.

"Be good ambassadors of the CNMI. Remember, you are not there for yourselves, but for your team and the CNMI. Enjoy and have fun, but at the same time think of your responsibility as representatives of the island. Behave well on

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Leina improves her 2013 finish

By **JON PEREZ**
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Leina Kim overcame a bogey on the opening hole to tally a 2-over 74 in Saturday's final round of the NCAA Division II Women's Golf Championship at the Meadows Golf Course in Allendale, Michigan.

It was only the second time

that Kim shot 2-over in the four rounds she played in the Grand Valley State University-hosted event to finish tied for 12th place. She had an overall score of 18-over 306.

The Colorado State University-Pueblo junior, according to the Lady

ThunderWolves website, was five shots behind the leaders in the second round with a 2-over 74 tally but dropped eight spots after limping with an 8-over 80 the following day.

Kim, despite failing to shoot an under-par round, improved her 28th place



Division II



finish in her freshman season two years ago to conclude her remarkable third season as a Lady ThunderWolf.

Her 18-over 306 score after Saturday's final round also eclipsed her 20-over 306 when the national tournament was held in Daytona Beach, Florida in 2013.

Kim, after starting with a bogey, went back to par after the next four holes. She parred the next three holes to erase a bogey on No. 6 and finish the front nine at 2-over.

A birdie, her seventh in the tournament, at the par-four 10th plus five straight pars kept Kim at 1-over entering the last three holes.

She bogeyed No. 16 but

**See LEINA on
Page 26**

CSU-PUEBLO

Leina Kim finished out strong in the final round of the NCAA Division II Women's Golf Championship to improve to 13th place from 28th two years ago.

Fiesta arranges finals date with PIC

By **JON PEREZ**
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Fiesta Resort & Spa waltzed to a 91-71 triumph over Joeten Enterprises in their knockout semifinals showdown in the 2015 Inter-Commercial Business Basketball League last Thursday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Lerio Pagarao and Elmer Esdreton combined for half of Fiesta's total output as the No. 2 seeds thwarted Joeten's upset bid to earn another shot of facing PIC this season. Pagarao and Esdreton tallied 47 points for the game.

The PIC-Fiesta match is set at 6:30pm Tuesday, May 19.

PIC is aiming to win a second straight basketball crown after clinching last year's title in the Inter-Hotel league.

Fiesta has yet to win against PIC after losing their first two meetings this season, the last an 77-89 beating in the play-off round.

Esdreton scored 14 points in the first half to help Fiesta enjoy a 52-36 spread entering the third quarter.

Pagarao, held to 4 points in the opening period, poured in 16 markers in the second half to finish what Esdreton had

started as Fiesta pulled away and kept Joeten at bay.

Pagarao ended up with 26 points, while Esdreton backed him up with 21. Matt Duenas and Jared Matsutaro came up with 16 markers each.

Joeten, which needed a 79-74 comeback win over Public School System in another knockout match last week, was only down by 7, 23-16, after the first 10 minutes of play.

They, however, failed to keep up with Fiesta's fast-paced offense, led by Esdreton and the cat-quick Matsutaro, in the second period.

Alex Lauron led Joeten's losing cause with 14 markers, while Dixon Kwon, the hero in their win against PSS, was limited to 13 points. Rocyl Ritual and Jun Sambile also scored 13 each while Steve Rasa made 12 more.

Fiesta 91 – Pagarao 26, Esdreton 21, Duenas 16, Matsutaro 16, Nonato 6, Lansang 4, Pablo 2.

Joeten 71 – Lauron 14, Kwon 13, Ritual 13, Sambile 13, Rasa 12, Borja 2, Sablan 2, Tobias 2.

Scoring by quarters: 23-16, 52-36, 66-56, 91-71.



JON PEREZ

Fiesta Resort & Spa's Marlon De Dios, 31, and Jared Matsutaro, center, try to prevent a Joeten player from getting close to the paint in their knockout game in the 2015 Inter-Commercial Business Basketball League last week at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.